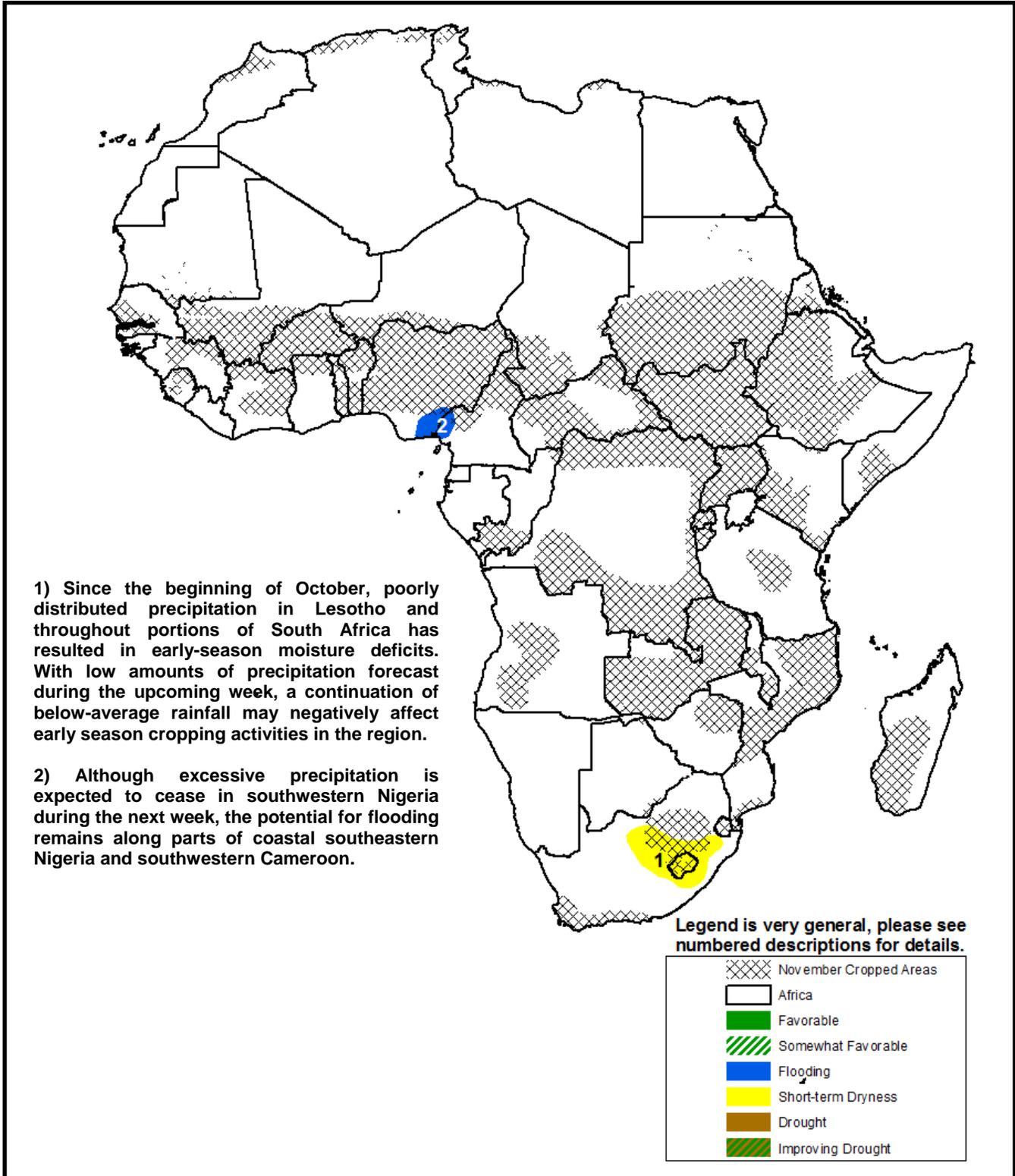


## Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 3 – November 9, 2011

- A reduction of heavy rainfall during the next seven days is expected to mitigate flooding concerns after an anomalously wet October in the Greater Horn.
- Early season moisture deficits have developed across many local areas in Lesotho and portions of South Africa.



## A decrease in rainfall expected to provide relief in Somalia, Kenya

During the last seven days, moderate to heavy amounts of precipitation were observed throughout many local areas in the Greater Horn. In Somalia, widespread rainfall ranging between 30-70mm was observed, with locally heavier amounts exceeding 50mm throughout the Shabelle and Juba River basins towards the south (**Figure 1**). These heavy rains extended further west, where isolated rainfall totals exceeding 75mm were received in parts of eastern and central Kenya. Further north, seven-day rainfall was generally lighter in southern Ethiopia, however precipitation was abundant in the west along the border with southern Sudan.

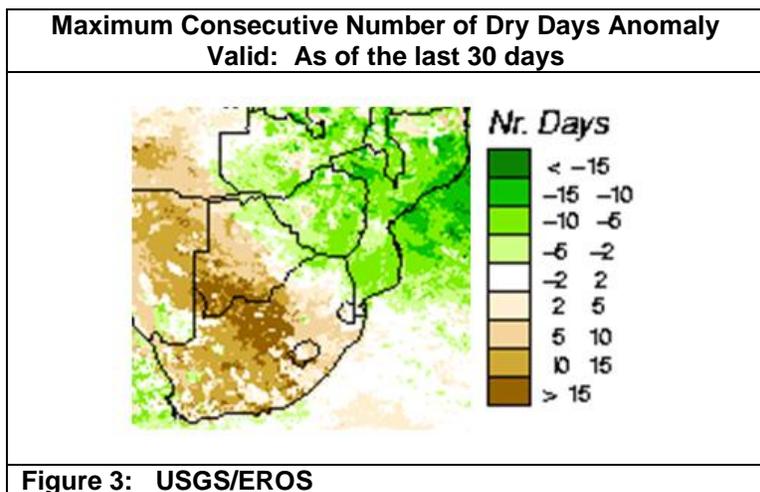
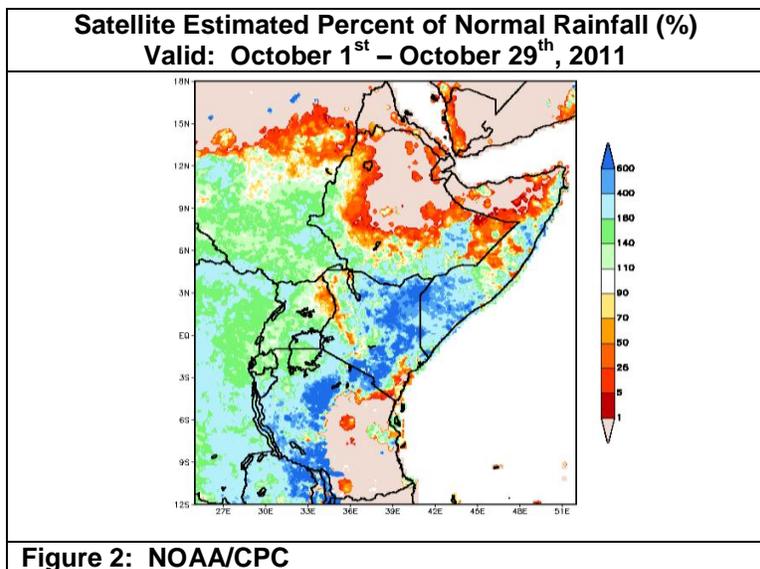
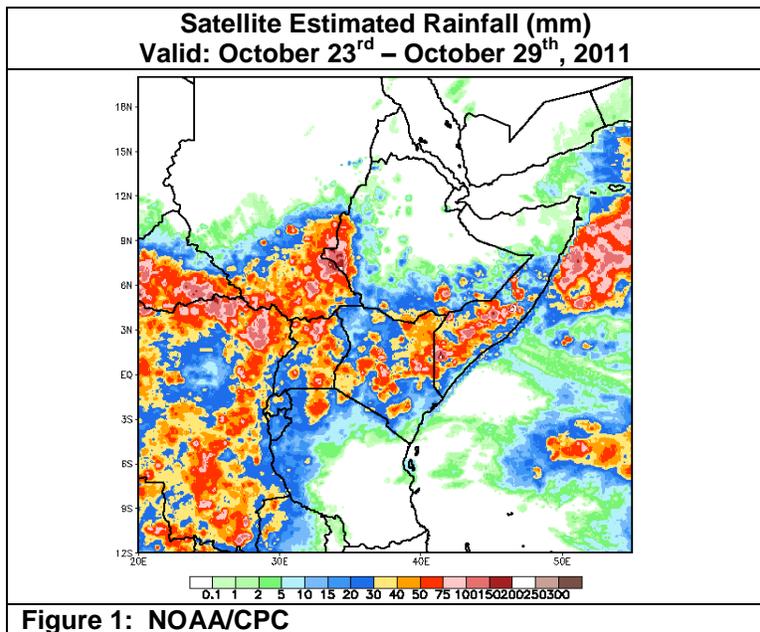
Another week of heavy rainfall in the Greater Horn has resulted in one of the wettest October's in recent record, and a significantly above-average Oct-Dec rains season. Since October 1<sup>st</sup>, many local areas from central Kenya to central Somalia have received over twice their expected rainfall for this time of the year, with some areas having observed over 400 percent of their normal rainfall in eastern Kenya and southern Somalia (**Figure 2**). While these seasonal moisture surpluses are expected to increase water availability for livestock and cropping activities following a significant drought event earlier this year, the anomalously wet rainfall during October has also led to numerous localized flooding events, displacing people and heightening the potential for waterborne disease outbreaks throughout the Greater Horn.

During the next seven days, forecasts suggest a reduction in precipitation across eastern Africa. Rainfall amounts ranging between 5-15mm are expected across many local areas that have experienced the greatest seasonal moisture surpluses in southern Somalia, and eastern Kenya. This decrease in precipitation is expected to mitigate flooding concerns and should provide a welcomed break to the wet Oct-Dec rains season.

## Suppressed rains lead to early season dryness in Lesotho, South Africa.

In southern Africa, poor and infrequent rainfall across portions of Lesotho, as well as along the Kwa-Zulu Natal, Free State and North West regions of South Africa has led to early season moisture deficits since the beginning of October. Many local areas have received nearly half of their normal rainfall accumulation for October and have also experienced an anomalous number of consecutive dry days, where no rainfall was observed over an extended period in October (**Figure 3**). The poor distribution of precipitation may negatively affect early season cropping activities, particularly along the southern maize triangle region and in Lesotho.

Precipitation forecasts indicate a continuation of low to moderate rainfall totals (5-20mm) during the next seven days over many local areas where moisture deficits have already developed. Further north, however, above average rainfall is forecast for northern South Africa, as well as in portions of Zimbabwe and Mozambique.



**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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