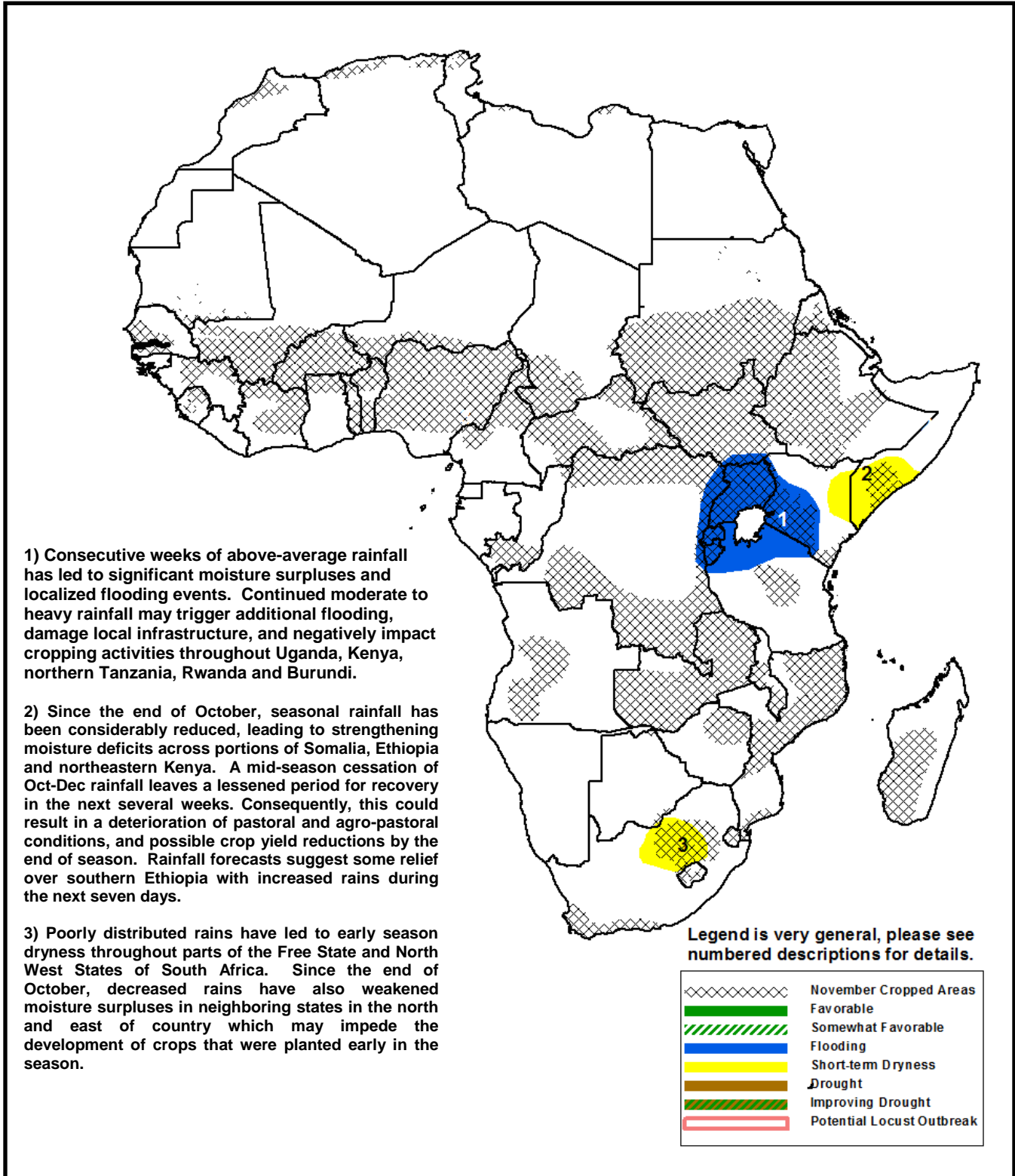


Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 15 – November 21, 2012

- Heavy rains continue across eastern Kenya and Tanzania, while a mid-season cessation of rains bring developing moisture deficits to portions of Somalia and neighboring regions of Ethiopia and Kenya.



Heavy, but not well-distributed rains received in parts of Kenya, Somalia.

Since the end of October, two consecutive weeks of enhanced rainfall had overly saturated ground conditions and caused localized flooding for some local areas around the Lake Victoria region. While a slight reduction of precipitation was observed in this region during the last week, much of heavy rainfall shifted to the east over southeastern Kenya, with high totals (> 75mm) along the Tanzania, Kenya and Somalia coastline (**Figure 1**). Locally heavier totals in excess of 100mm, which have elevated the risk for flooding, were observed in the coast province, and southern Eastern, and North Eastern provinces of Kenya. Further north across parts of northeastern Kenya and southern Somalia, weekly rainfall accumulations were heavy, but poorly distributed in the region, with much of the Shabelle and Jubba River Basins generally receiving less than 40mm of precipitation.

Despite several weeks of enhanced rainfall across regions of the Greater Horn, poorly distributed precipitation in parts of northeastern Kenya and southern Somalia have resulted in strengthening moisture deficits for the season. Since the beginning of October, many local areas in the region have experienced less than half of their normal rainfall accumulations following a favorable start to the Oct-Dec rains season (**Figure 2**). Some local areas in southern Somalia have observed little no rainfall during the first dekad of November, when rains are expected to be at a maximum for the season. Due to the short length of season, a mid-season dry spell leaves a lessened period for a seasonal recovery of rains, which may negatively impact pastoral and agro-pastoral conditions, and possibly weaken crop production.

For the upcoming outlook period, precipitation forecasts suggest some relief to mid-season dryness, with increased amounts of rainfall (30-50mm) expected in the region, with the potential for higher amounts of rainfall over portions of southern and eastern Ethiopia.

Early season dryness continues in parts of southern Africa.

Since the middle of October, little seasonal rainfall has been received for many parts of the Free State, and North West states of South Africa. Additionally, a delayed start to monsoon rains have also been observed across portions of southern Angola, and portions of central Zambia, western Mozambique and Malawi. The below-average rains have helped to strengthen seasonal moisture deficits in these areas, and have also led to a decline of vegetation conditions (**Figure 3**).

For the next seven days, many regions in southern Africa are expecting to receive a more seasonable distribution of rainfall, with the potential for increased precipitation in southern Angola. However, early season dryness is expected to persist in parts of South Africa.

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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