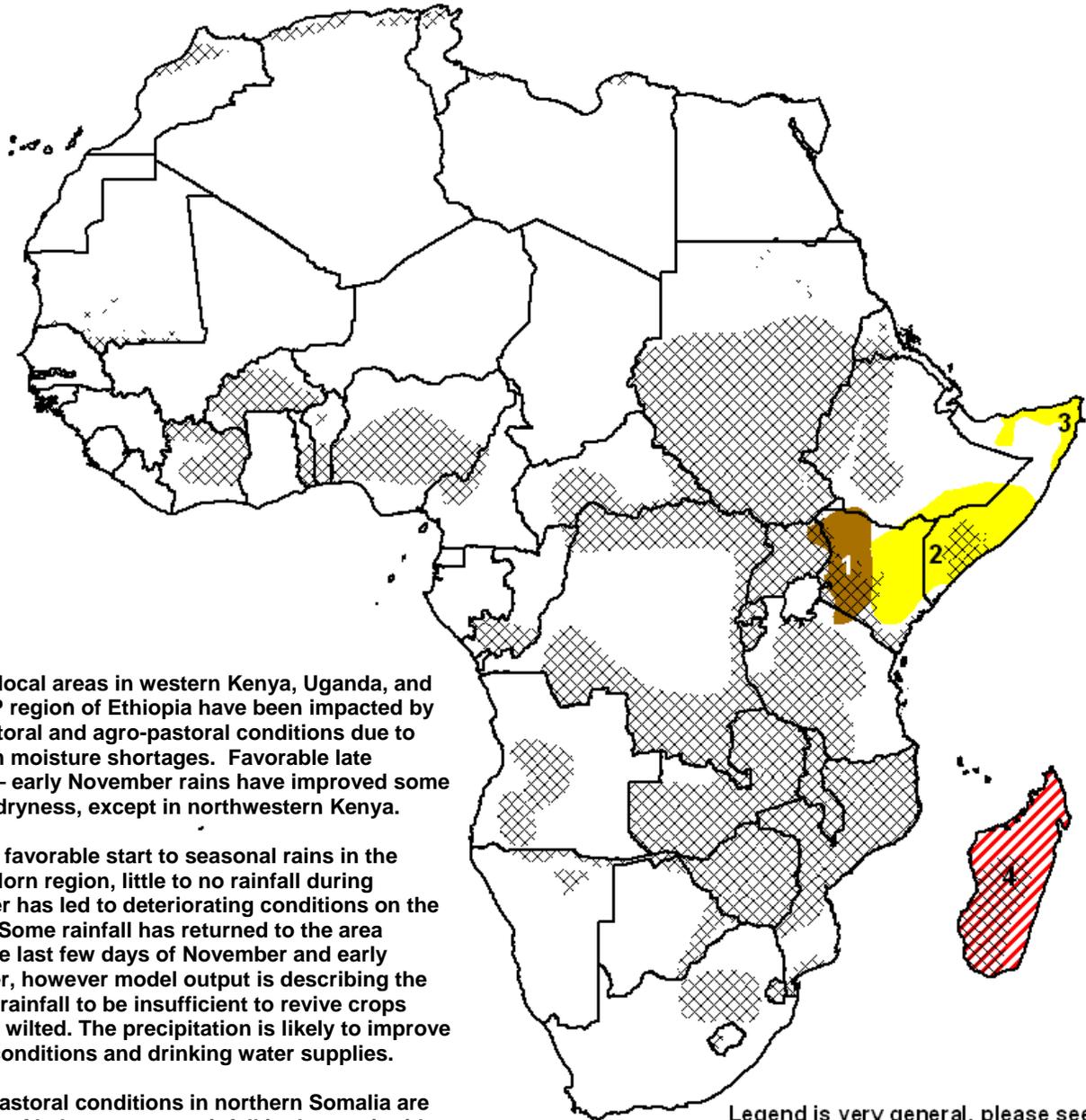


- Tropical Cyclone Cleo may impact Madagascar during the coming week. Cleo is currently south of Diego Garcia.
- Precipitation returns to parts of Kenya and Somalia after poor rains in November, however little improvement is expected.



1) Many local areas in western Kenya, Uganda, and the SNNP region of Ethiopia have been impacted by poor pastoral and agro-pastoral conditions due to long-term moisture shortages. Favorable late October – early November rains have improved some areas of dryness, except in northwestern Kenya.

2) After a favorable start to seasonal rains in the Greater Horn region, little to no rainfall during November has led to deteriorating conditions on the ground. Some rainfall has returned to the area during the last few days of November and early December, however model output is describing the return of rainfall to be insufficient to revive crops that have wilted. The precipitation is likely to improve pasture conditions and drinking water supplies.

3) Poor pastoral conditions in northern Somalia are the result of below average rainfall in the semi-arid region.

4) Tropical Cyclone Cleo is making its way westward, and has the potential to make landfall along the west coast of Madagascar. Rough surf, high winds, storm surge, landslides and flooding are all possible across the island.

Legend is very general, please see numbered descriptions for details.



Relief arrives late in Kenya and Somalia

Two weeks of improved rains are unlikely to completely reverse the damage caused by a dry November. Precipitation in October was abundant across southern Somalia and most of Kenya. However a 2 – 3 week dry period across the region wilted crops and reduced water available for drinking and pasture (**Figure 1**). Although the impacts are far from uniform, many areas experienced harsh conditions during November.

During the last few days of November moisture returned to the area and the rainfall has persisted into early December. This relief is providing an increased amount of drinking water and is helping to revive pasture lands. At the current time, however reports remain skeptical about the potential revival of crops in the region.

The forecast for the coming week remains optimistic, as precipitation is likely to remain in place across Ethiopia, Somalia and Kenya. The moisture may still help keep alive crops that made it through the dry spell.

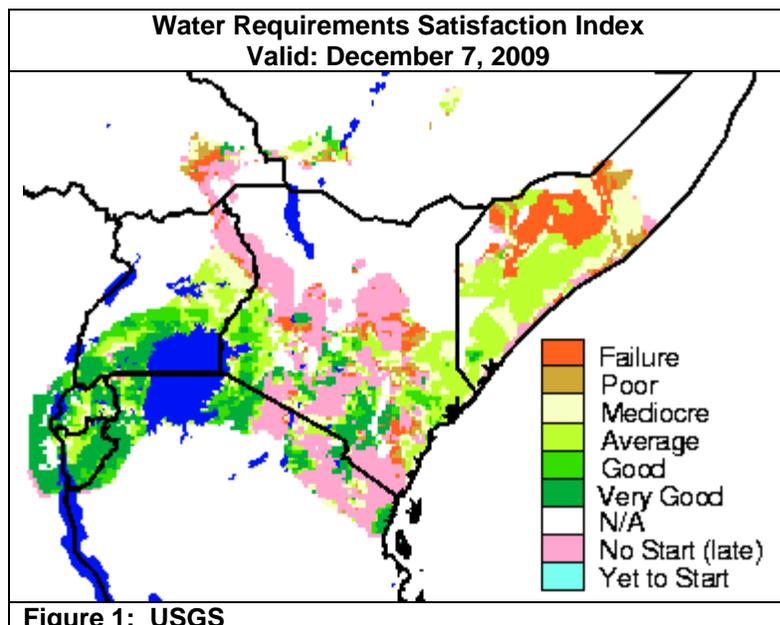


Figure 1: USGS

Central Mozambique reverses trend, heavy rainfall soaks the region

Although rainfall had been slow to start in central Mozambique, rainfall during the last week has taken a 50 mm deficit and turned it into a surplus. The area between the Save and Ligonha Rivers received upwards of 75 mm during the past week. Further north, deficits remain between the Ligonha and Lurio Rivers. (**Figure 2**) The heavy rainfall may have trigger small amounts of flooding in low lying areas but generally the precipitation should be beneficial.

The forecast for the coming week maintains precipitation across the area, although it is unlikely to be so heavy. Areas further north are likely to experience only light precipitation.

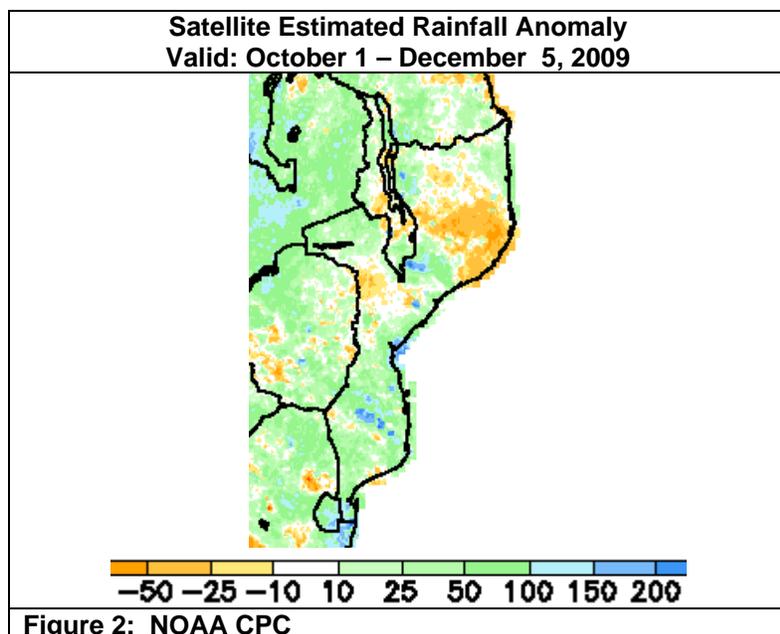


Figure 2: NOAA CPC

Tropical Cyclone Cleo forms in the Indian Ocean

Tropical Cyclone Cleo formed just to the southeast of Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean. At present it is a week system, but is forecast to strengthen and remain well to the north of Port Louis as it pushes off towards the west. (**Figure 3**)

Although forecasts do not go out far enough to discuss if there is a threat to Madagascar or mainland Africa, however this system bares watching due to the fact that sea surface temperatures remain favorable, and steering winds are currently directing the storm westward.

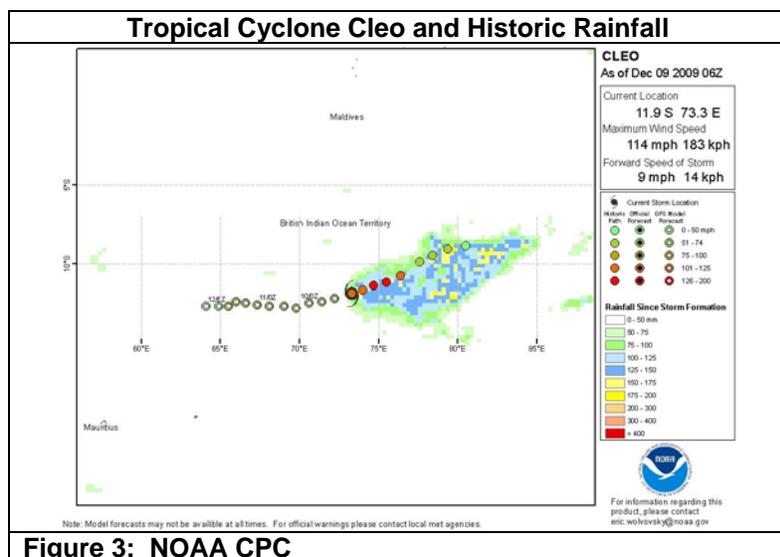


Figure 3: NOAA CPC