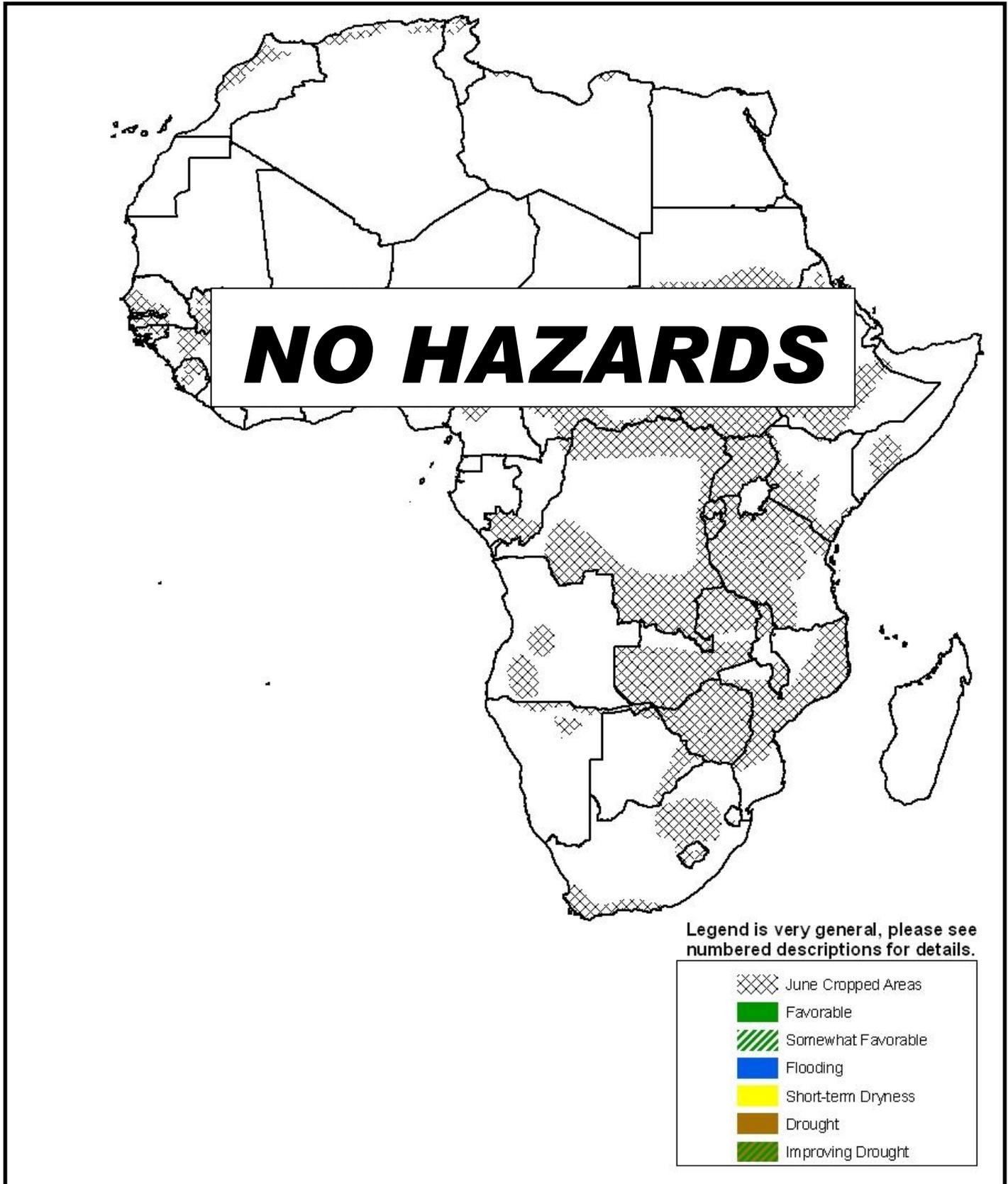
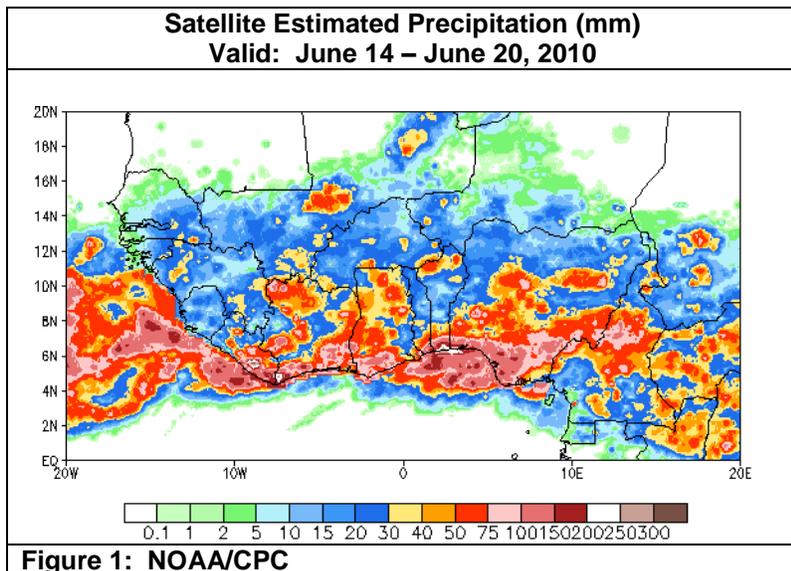


- The continued moderate to heavy seasonal rainfall in West and East Africa has resulted in good ground moisture for cropping activities, except for localized moisture deficits observed in parts of northern Nigeria and western Sudan.



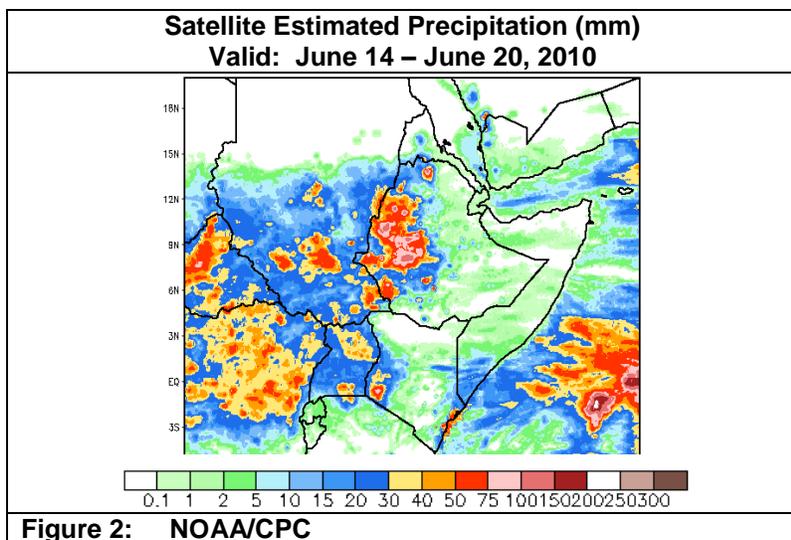
Rainfall continues to expand into parts of the Sahel region, moderate to heavy rainfall continues in many parts of the Gulf of Guinea countries

During the last observation period, parts of the southern Sahel countries continued to receive fair to moderate rainfall with patches of enhanced rainfall observed in Mali and Niger. Moderate to heavy rainfall was also observed in much of the Gulf of Guinea region. The weekly total rainfall amount has exceeded 75mm in parts of Liberia, southern Cote D'Ivoire, southwest Ghana, and southern Nigeria. Meanwhile, the weekly total rainfall amount remained below 30mm in the northern parts of Nigeria. The increase in rainfall in the Delta region of Nigeria has improved the previous week's rainfall deficits observed in the area. The persistent rainfall decline in northeast Nigeria has led to a developing dryness in the vicinity of Lake Chad (**Figure 1**). Rainfall forecasts for the coming week indicate enhanced rainfall in many parts of the Gulf of Guinea region and fair to moderate rainfall in the southern parts of the Sahel countries.

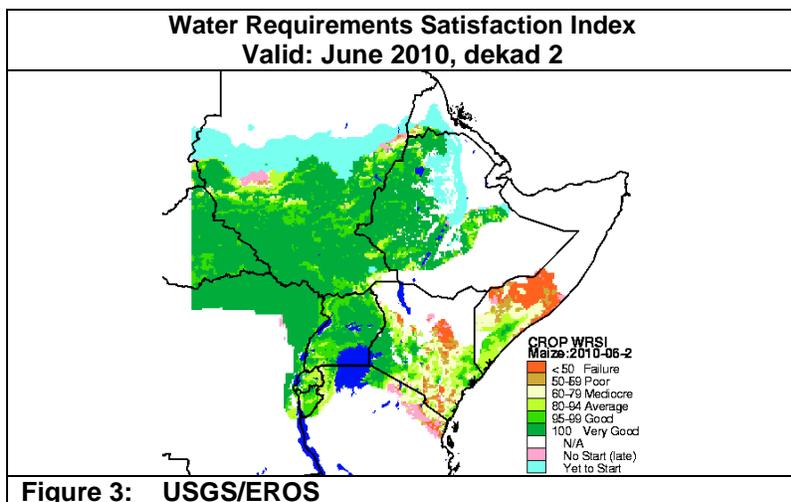


Rainfall remains weak in parts of western Sudan, while moderate to heavy rains continue in southern Sudan and western Ethiopia

During the last observation period, the weekly total rainfall amount remained below 10mm in parts of western Sudan. This has contributed to the growing early season dryness in the region. Meanwhile, the central and eastern parts of Sudan have continued to receive moderate to heavy rainfall. The weekly total rainfall in many places in western Ethiopia remained above 50mm with some places in western Oromyia receiving above 75mm per week (**Figure 2**).



The recent WRSI analysis depicts very good crop conditions in many parts of Sudan and Ethiopia, except for localized delays observed in western Sudan. The recent increase in rainfall in eastern Sudan has gradually improved the earlier impacts of delayed rainfall in parts of eastern Sudan (**Figure 3**). The current areas of early season dryness in parts of western and eastern Sudan are not worrisome, as there remains ample time in the season to compensate for these rainfall deficits. Rainfall forecasts for the coming week indicate moderate to heavy rains in western Ethiopia and suppressed rainfall in parts of southern and central Sudan.



Note: The hazards assessment 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.

FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards assessment process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned. Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-763-8000 x7566. Questions about the USAID FEWSNET activity may be directed to Gary Eilerts, USAID Program Manager for FEWSNET, 1-202-219-0500 or geilerts@usaid.gov.