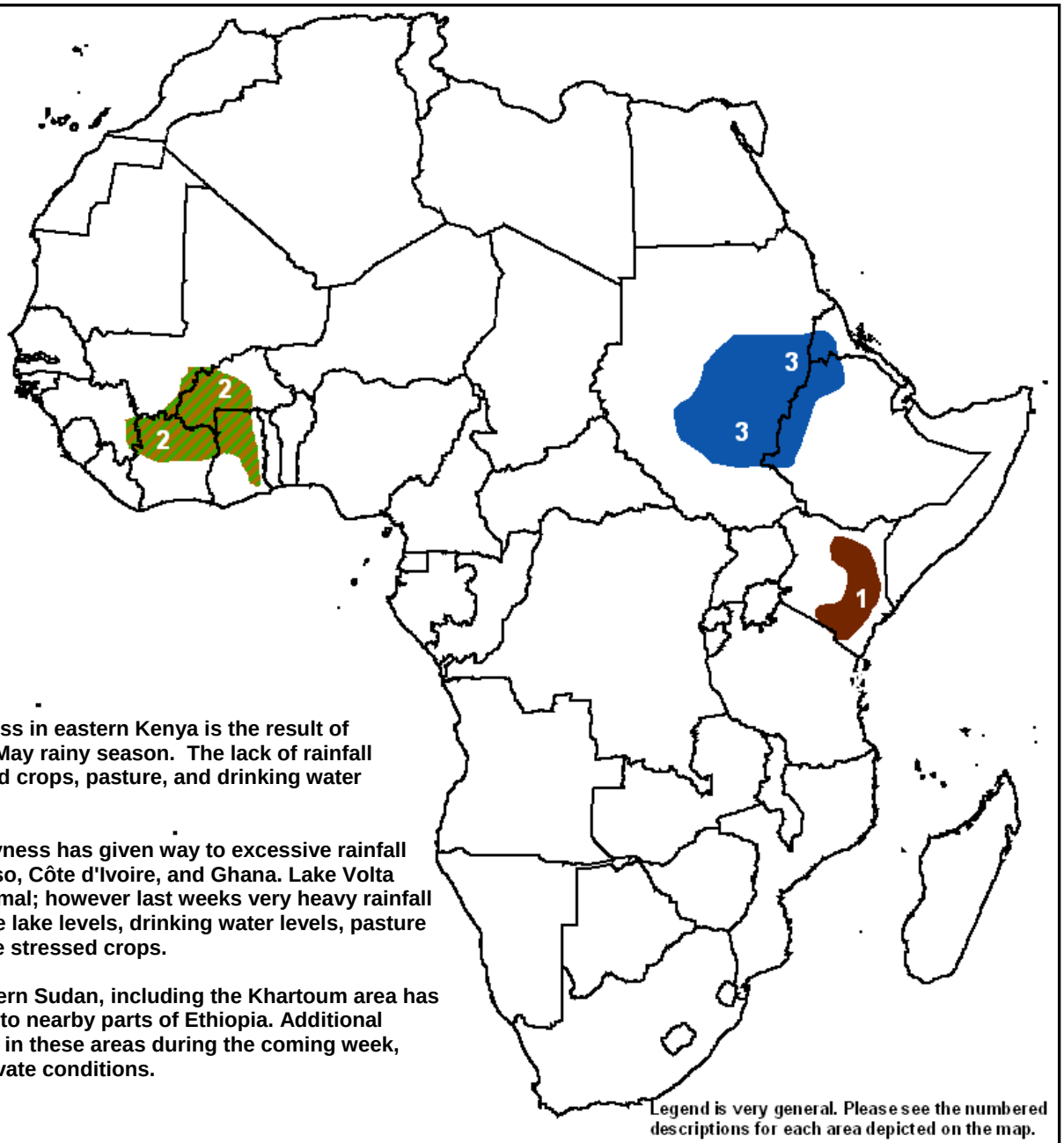
The USAID FEWS-NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Africa August 2 – 8, 2007

- **After dry conditions across parts of the Sahel, a week of heavy rains causes scattered flooding from Ethiopia to Senegal. Localized damage to crops and infrastructure is likely in many areas.**

- **Dry conditions remain a concern in several areas, despite the week of excessive rainfall. Lake Volta remains below normal as areas upstream continue to face moisture deficits.**



1) Long term dryness in eastern Kenya is the result of the poor March to May rainy season. The lack of rainfall negatively impacted crops, pasture, and drinking water supplies.

2) Early season dryness has given way to excessive rainfall across Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana. Lake Volta remains below normal; however last weeks very heavy rainfall will help to improve lake levels, drinking water levels, pasture and possibly revive stressed crops.

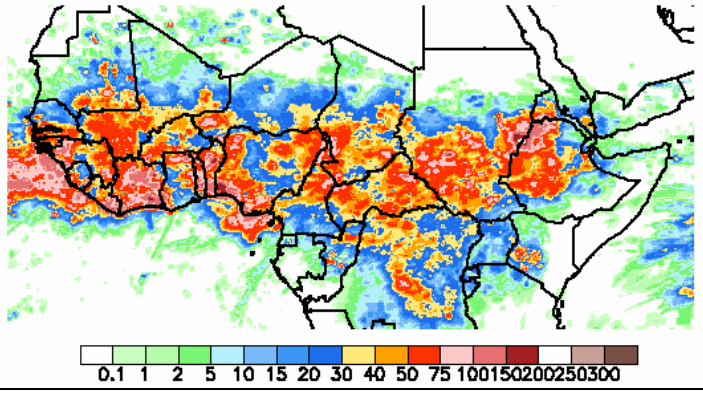
3) Flooding in eastern Sudan, including the Khartoum area has spread eastward into nearby parts of Ethiopia. Additional rainfall is expected in these areas during the coming week, which could aggravate conditions.

Excessive rainfall soaks Sahel and parts of the Greater Horn.

During the last week conditions conducive to excessive rainfall moved over all of Africa. Localized flooding was reported in parts of Senegal, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Chad, Sudan and Ethiopia. In many areas the rainfall was needed, but receiving it all at once has the potential to wash crops away, cause damage to infrastructure and hamper field work.

These conditions are local impacts, regionally the heavy precipitation has reduced rainfall deficits in Ethiopia, Senegal, Mali, Niger, Chad and Sudan. In the area facing some of the largest deficits Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana also significantly reduced their moisture deficits. Lake Volta in Ghana, which has been below normal for an extended period, will also likely see lake levels rise slightly from the heavy rains. Additional rainfall, however, is needed in this area for a recovery to continue.

Rainfall Estimates
July 23 - 29, 2007



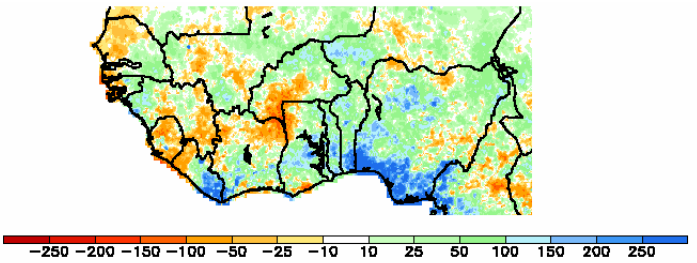
Source FEWS-NET/NOAA

Despite strong rains during the last week deficits remain.

Poorly distributed rainfall continues to hamper portions of Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire. This dryness is a major factor in Lake Volta's reduced water level. The irregular precipitation will also hamper cropping activities in northern Côte d'Ivoire and southwestern Burkina Faso. Pasture and drinking water availability, however are now much less of a concern.

In Senegal rainfall continues to be a concern, although southern and western portions of the country have remained positive there was a slightly delayed start to the season, and more significant delay in the eastern areas, including the Groundnut Basin. This past week moisture improved, but the area is still left with an overall deficit. Additional moisture is urgently needed in this area.

Precipitation Anomalies
May 1 – July 29, 2007



Source FEWS-NET/NOAA

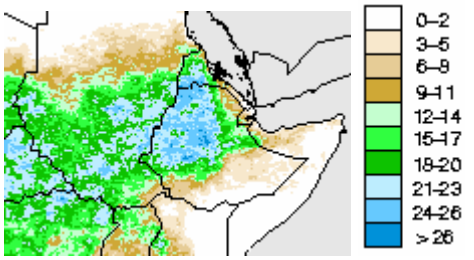
Flooding also an issue in eastern Africa, moisture deficits less prevalent

A large area of Sudan has been experiencing heavy rainfall longer than most of Africa. When the heavy precipitation reached much of east and west Africa this week, Sudan was already saturated. Reports of local flooding in eastern Sudan for the third week in a row tell of damaged infrastructure, displaced people and fatalities. Despite the bad news, this has improved rainfall over the Darfur region. Also crops, pastures and drinking water continue to benefit from the abundant moisture.

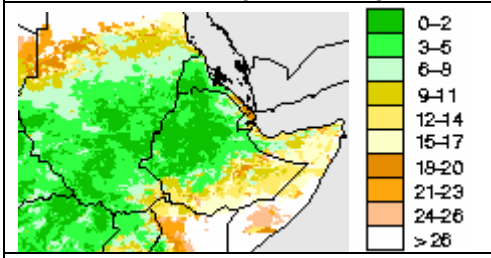
Ethiopia, which had experienced a slightly below normal first wet season in the Afar region has also benefited from steady rainfall. There are no concerns of flooding in this area, as rainfall was near normal, but pastures continue to regenerate as evenly distributed rainfall continues.

In the northern Ethiopian Highlands heavy rainfall caused localized flooding. Precipitation had run very slightly below normal as of last week. Now rainfall is either at or above normal since February 1st. This is the wettest time of year in the northern Ethiopian Highlands and heavy rainfall events like this one are not unusual.

Number of Rainy Days During the past 30 Days



Number of Consecutive Dry Days During the past 30 Days



Source FEWS-NET/USGS