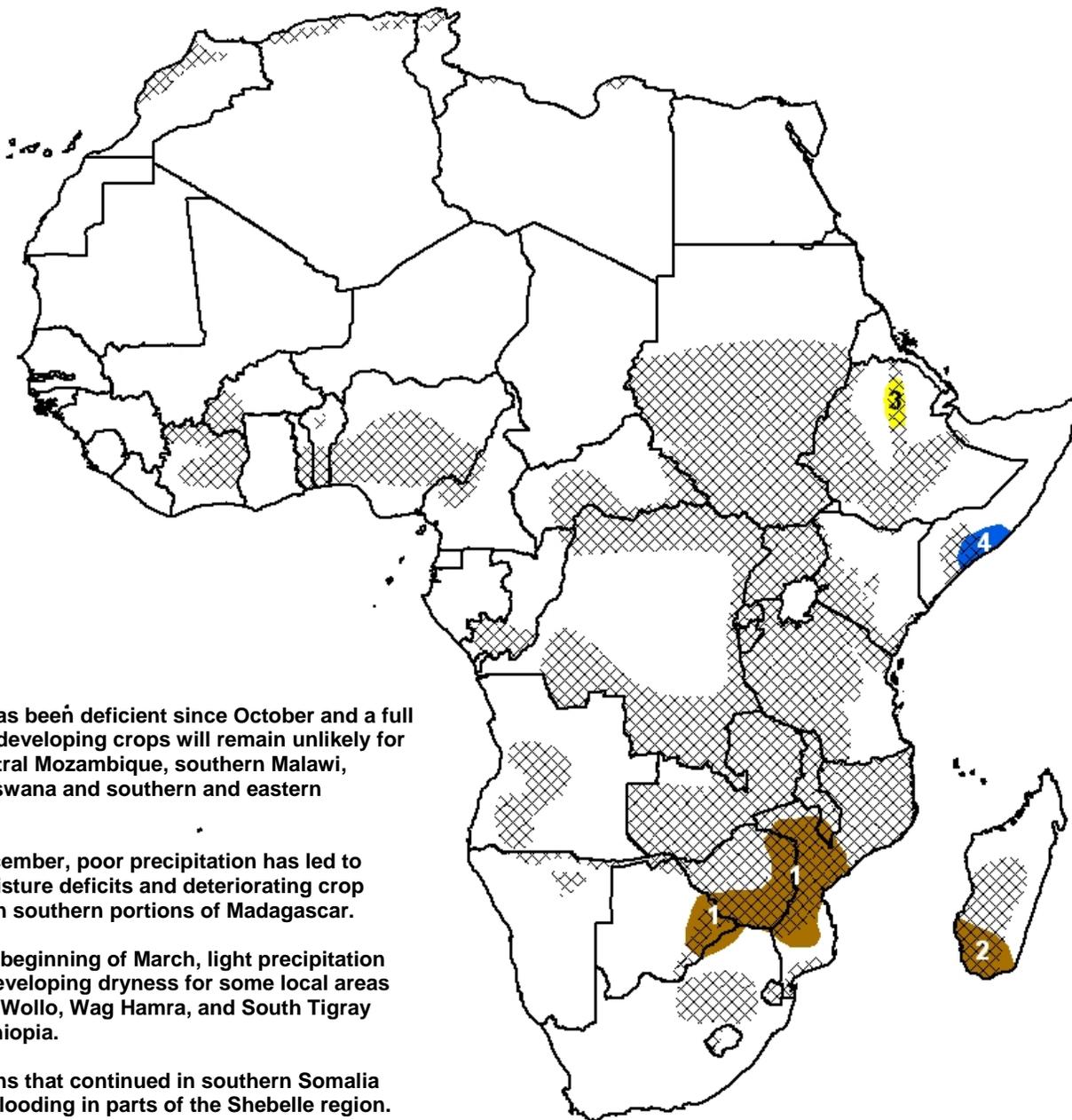


- In the last seven days, heavy rainfall was observed over the drought affected areas of southern Mozambique, southern and central Zimbabwe and eastern Botswana, while rainfall deficits continued over much of Madagascar.
- Heavy rains that continued in southern Somalia have resulted in flooding in parts of the Shebelle region.



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



## Parts of drought affected areas in southern Africa receive heavy rainfall

During last observation period, the interaction between the mid-latitude frontal and tropical systems across southeast Africa has led to an increase in weekly total rainfall in excess of 50mm in southern Mozambique, southern and central Zimbabwe, eastern Botswana and parts of the Maize Triangle, with the weekly total rainfall exceeding 75mm in some places of central and southern Zimbabwe. Rains also continued to be heavy (>50mm) in southeast Tanzania and the adjacent areas of northern Mozambique, with the weekly total rainfall exceeding 75mm in some places of southeast Tanzania (**Figure 1**).

Despite the heavy rainfall in the last seven days, numerous dry spells and intermittent periods of heavy precipitation are indicative of inconsistent seasonal rainfall activity in southern Africa. This has resulted in poor crop development as depicted by the latest WRSI analysis for the last dekad of April (**Figure 2**). The recent rains could have negative impact on matured crops ready for harvest, but may offer additional residual moisture for off-season cropping.

## Southern Somalia continues to receive above - average rainfall

During last observation period, rainfall continued to be heavy in parts of southern Somalia, despite the general decrease in rainfall activity in the Horn of Africa (**Figure 3**). Flood due to a river burst its banks in the Middle Shebelle region resulted in displacement of people and destruction of newly sown crops.

Belg rainfall over northeast Ethiopia has shown slight improvement, while the rest of the Belg-rain-benefiting areas, including the Somali region of Ethiopia, experienced rainfall deficits during last week. As compared with the previous week, rainfall has also decreased significantly in parts of western Kenya and central Tanzania.

Weekly total rainfall remained below 10mm in parts of southeastern Sudan as well as in Gambela and western Oromiya regions of Ethiopia. The weak rainfall activity that persisted in these areas could have a negative impact on early agricultural activities.

Outlooks for the coming week indicate a high probability of enhanced rainfall along the coastal regions of East Africa, including parts of Kenya, southern Somalia, and eastern coastal regions of Tanzania. The return of heavy rainfall over East Africa may lead to additional flood risks in the region. On the other hand, rainfall is expected to remain suppressed in southern Sudan and southwest Ethiopia, which will continue affecting the early agricultural activities in the region.

**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.**

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