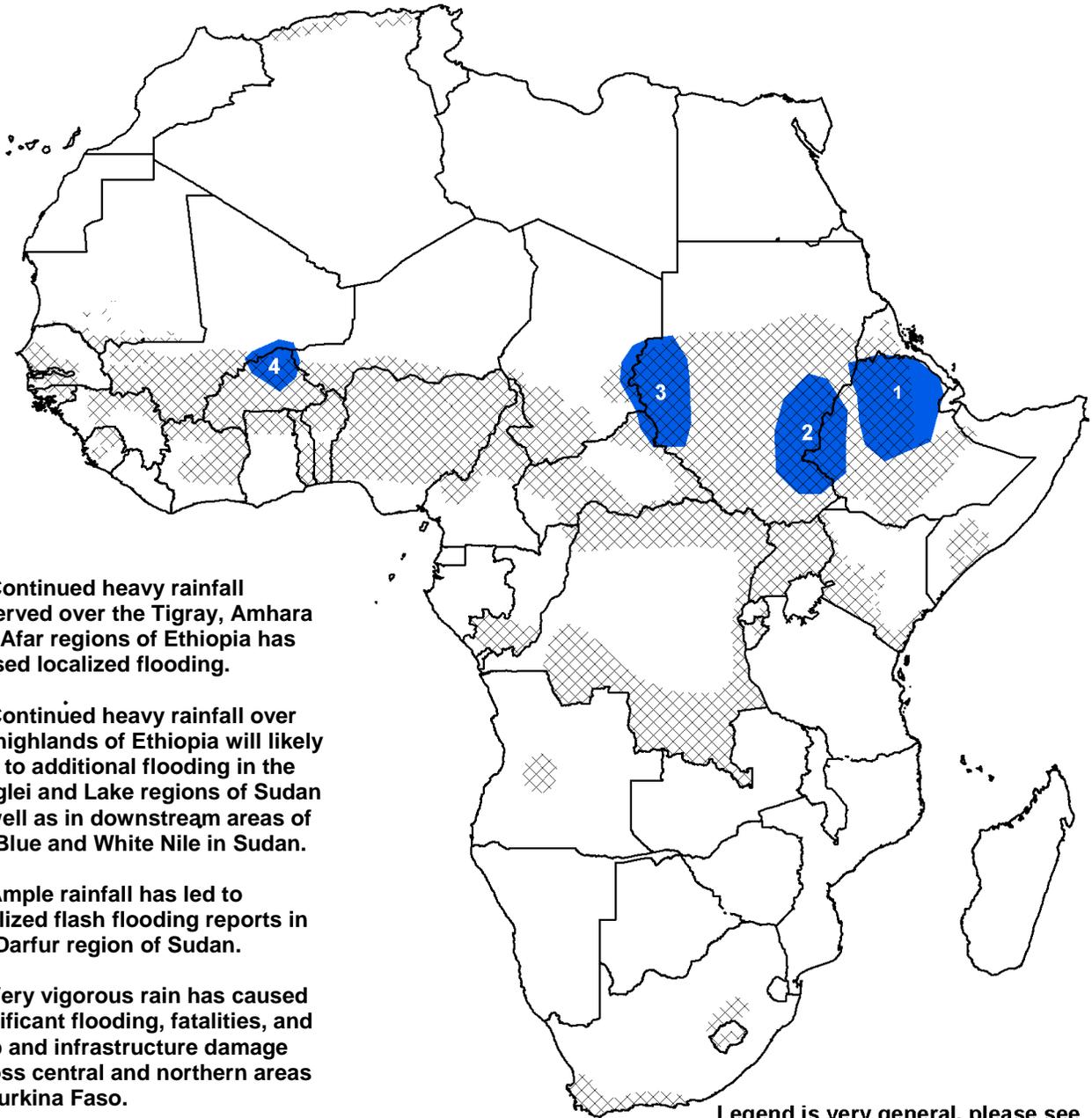
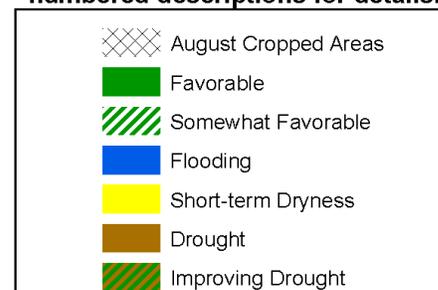


- Heavy rainfall across the highlands of Ethiopia and the Darfur region of Sudan has led to flooding.
- Rainfall over central Mali has eased dryness concerns while enhanced rainfall over Burkina Faso continued the flooding threat in the region.



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



Heavy rainfall across eastern Mali and Burkina Faso helps ease rainfall deficits.

Over the past week, heavy rain (40-75 mm) fell across portions of the Sahel including eastern Mali and Burkina Faso. This rainfall brought relief to areas in Mali experiencing short-term dryness. Further east, central Nigeria also observed enhanced rainfall (40-75 mm) as well. The highest rainfall (> 100 mm), though, was over Guinea and Sierra Leone as easterly waves continued to move offshore. However, little to no rainfall was seen over Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana for the second consecutive week (Figure 1). Plus, rainfall over eastern Nigeria was 20-30 mm less when compared to the past few weeks.

After some needed rainfall across central Mali, poor WRSI values increased to mediocre. Although, WRSI values across central Mali have improved, values along the border region of Mali, Senegal and Mauritania have decreased as rainfall has been limited with the slow northward movement of the Intertropical Front (ITF). Otherwise, cropping conditions across West Africa look beneficial as widespread abundant rainfall over the past weeks has helped to relieve dry areas of the region (Figure 2).

Rainfall totals over the next week are expected to continue to be high over portions of Burkina Faso and Mali continuing to provide relief to dry areas while also increasing chances for flooding in portions of Burkina Faso. Nigeria is also expected to observe increased rainfall while coastal Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire will continue to see light precipitation totals (5-15 mm).

Copious amounts of rain continued over the highlands of Ethiopia and the Darfur region of Sudan.

Vigorous rainfall continued over the Amhara and western Oromiya regions of Ethiopia where some areas received over 100 mm of rain in the last week. In general, most of the highlands of Ethiopia received greater than 50 mm of rain during the week. Over the past 30 days, the highlands of Ethiopia have observed a 100-150 mm rainfall surplus. This anomalous rainfall has led to flooding in portions of the Jonglei state of Sudan and a high potential of flooding along the Blue and White Nile in Sudan. There have also been reports of flash flooding and damage to infrastructure in the White Nile state of Sudan. Elsewhere in Ethiopia, portions of the Afar and Tigray region continued to receive moderate to high rainfall (30-75 mm) leading to reports of flooding, crop, livestock and property damage. However, eastern Oromiya observed reduced rainfall, 30-40 mm less, as the spatial extent of high rains did not extend as far east as observed in previous weeks. Rainfall over central and eastern Sudan also saw a decrease from the previous week as the heaviest rainfall (50-75 mm) was mainly over the Western Bahr El Ghazal and Darfur regions of Sudan (Figure 3). In general, 10-30 mm less rain fell over the Kordofan and eastern regions of Sudan compared to last week.

For the next week, forecast models suggest another week of abundant rainfall over the highlands of Ethiopia and the Darfur region of Sudan. These rains could cause localized flooding in these areas. However, eastern Sudan and eastern Ethiopia, especially the Afar region of Ethiopia are forecast to observe less rainfall than seen in previous weeks.

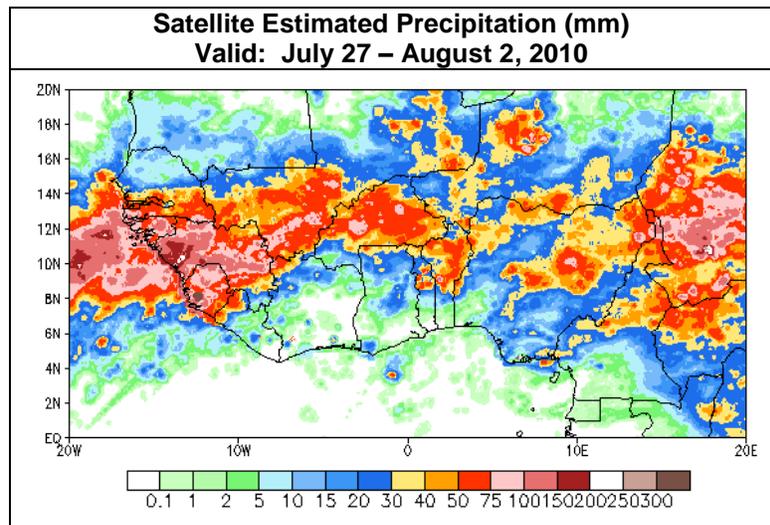


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

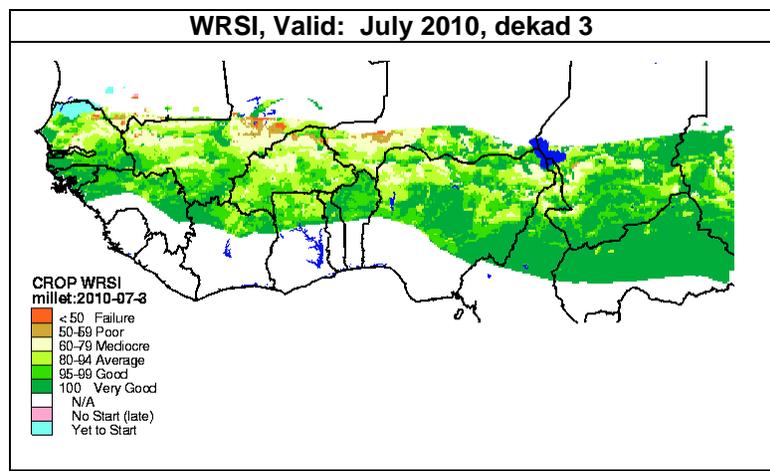


Figure 2: USGS/EROS

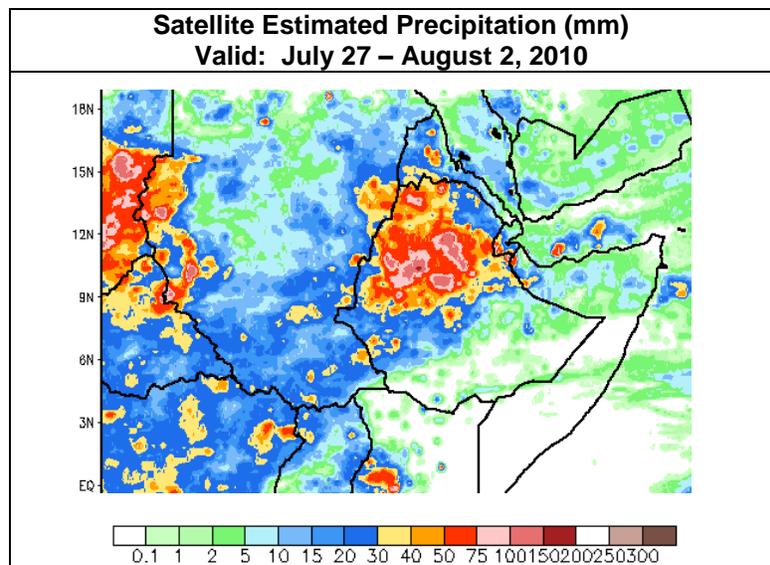


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

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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