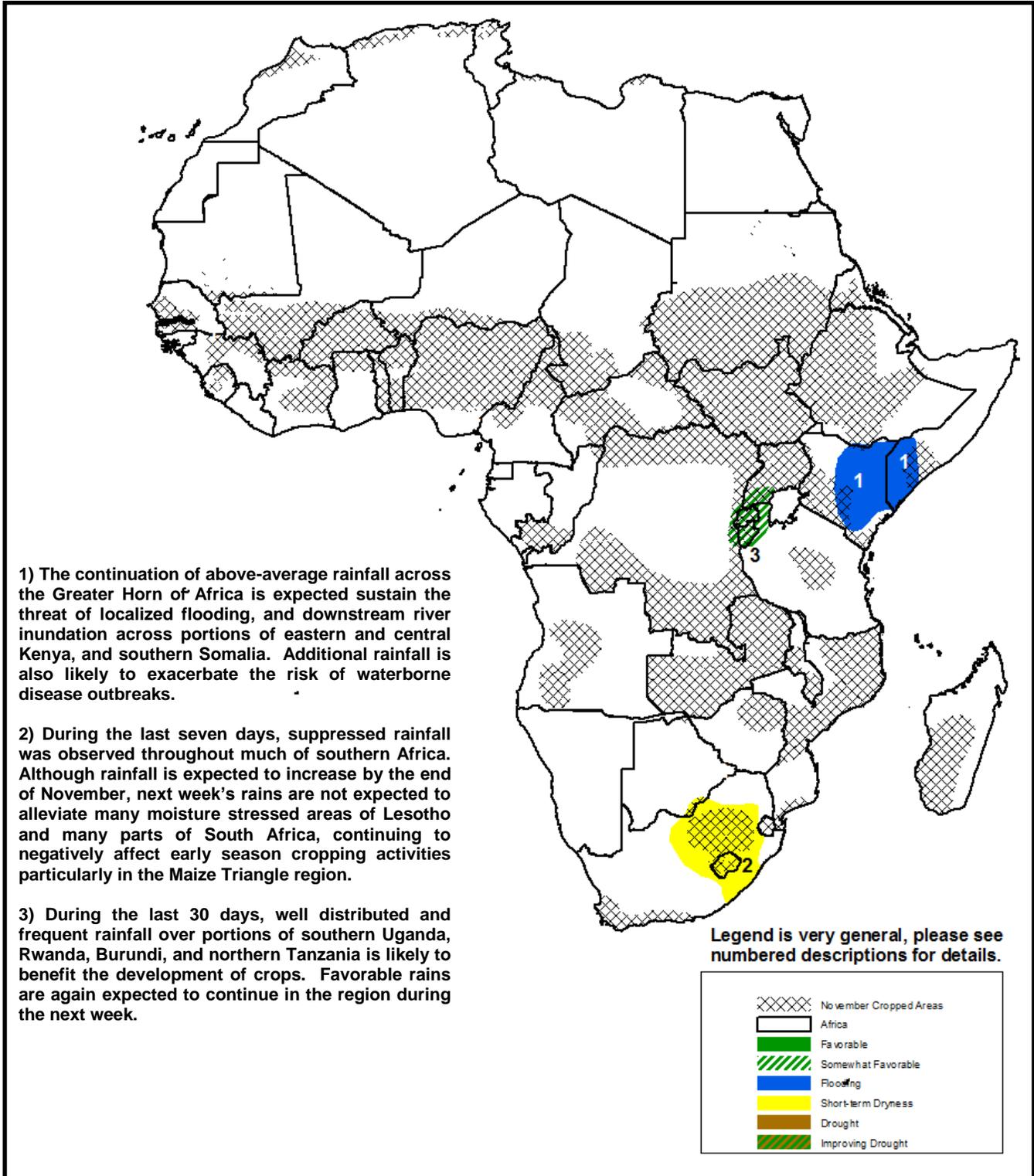


## Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 24 – November 30, 2011

- Enhanced rainfall is expected to continue over many parts of Kenya, however, reduced rainfall across portions of Ethiopia and Somalia in late November is expected to relieve many areas impacted by floods.
- Despite an increase in precipitation in eastern South Africa during the last week, many local areas in the Maize Triangle region are experiencing worsening moisture deficits due to poor rainfall since October.



## Decreased rainfall over Somalia, Ethiopia provided much needed break

Throughout mid-November, many local areas in the Greater Horn of Africa saw a welcomed decrease in precipitation. This reduction in seasonal rainfall had followed several consecutive weeks of considerably above-average precipitation since October. During the last week, much of Ethiopia received little to no rainfall, with the exception of some moderate to heavy shower activity in the southwest along the border with South Sudan. In Somalia, the heaviest weekly rainfall (> 50mm) fell mostly offshore, however moderate to heavy amounts of rain were again observed in the south along the lower Juba River basin (**Figure 1**). In Kenya, heavy precipitation (>50mm) was received throughout the central and southern portions of the country, with locally higher amounts observed in coast province during the last week. Further west, seven day rain accumulations were minimal, as most of the heavy rains were observed over Lake Victoria.

Despite a reduction of rainfall during the last week, many areas in East Africa remain significantly above average in precipitation. Since the beginning of November, positive rainfall anomalies in excess of 50mm are prevalent throughout much of East Africa, with some local areas experiencing as much as 100 to 150mm rainfall surpluses across eastern and western Ethiopia, western Kenya and southern Somalia. The above-average rainfall in November has resulted in excess ground moisture along many river basins in East Africa (**Figure 2**). Since October, torrential rainfall, flash flooding and river inundation have already resulted in inaccessible roads and damages to infrastructure, waterborne disease outbreaks and have displaced thousands of people in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia.

For the current observation period, another week reduced precipitation (<50mm) is expected for many anomalously wet portions of Somalia and Ethiopia. In Kenya, however, the potential for heavy rainfall remains high, as seven day rainfall accumulations in excess of 50mm is expected over the eastern, northeastern central and coast provinces of the country. These heavy rains may also extend further north into southern Ethiopia in late November.

## Seasonal moisture deficits continue worsen in southern Africa

Although an increase in rainfall was observed throughout southern Africa during the last week, much of this rainfall was not received over areas that have experienced a prolonged delay to the start of the southern Africa monsoon. Throughout Lesotho, South Africa, and southeastern Botswana, seasonal rainfall deficits have climbed to over 100mm for many local areas (**Figure 3**). Many of these areas have experienced extended periods of no rainfall, which is expected to negatively impact early season pastoral and agro-pastoral conditions. Over the last couple of weeks, short-term moisture deficits have also begun to strengthen and expand further north into parts of northern South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe.

For the upcoming observation period, precipitation forecasts suggest a considerable increase in rainfall over southern Africa. However, the heaviest rains are not expected over some of the driest parts of South Africa and Lesotho.

## Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm) Valid: November 13<sup>th</sup> – November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

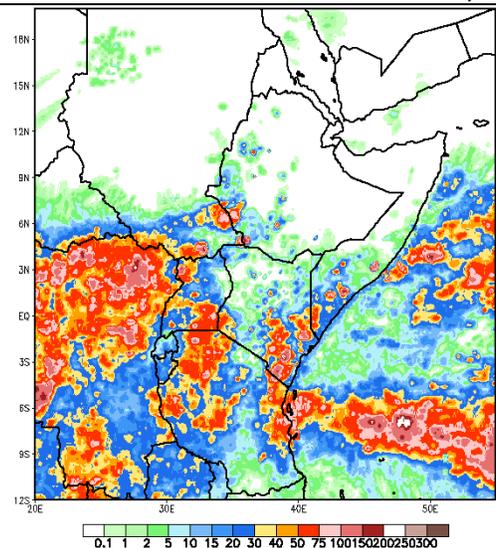


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

## Basin Excess Rainfall Map (BERM) Valid: As of 1<sup>st</sup> Dekad of November, 2011

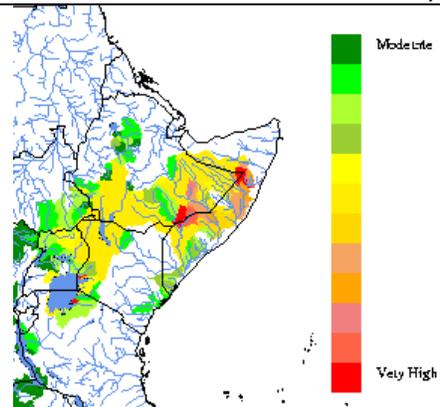


Figure 2: USGS/EROS

## Satellite Estimated Rainfall Anomaly (mm) Valid: October 1<sup>st</sup> – November 19, 2011

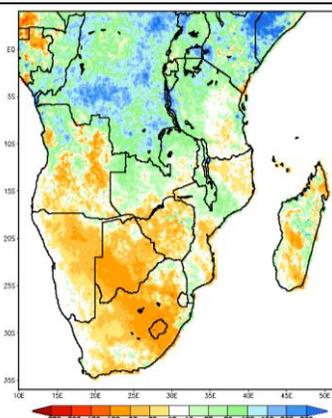


Figure 3: NOAA/CPC

**Note: The hazards outlook 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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