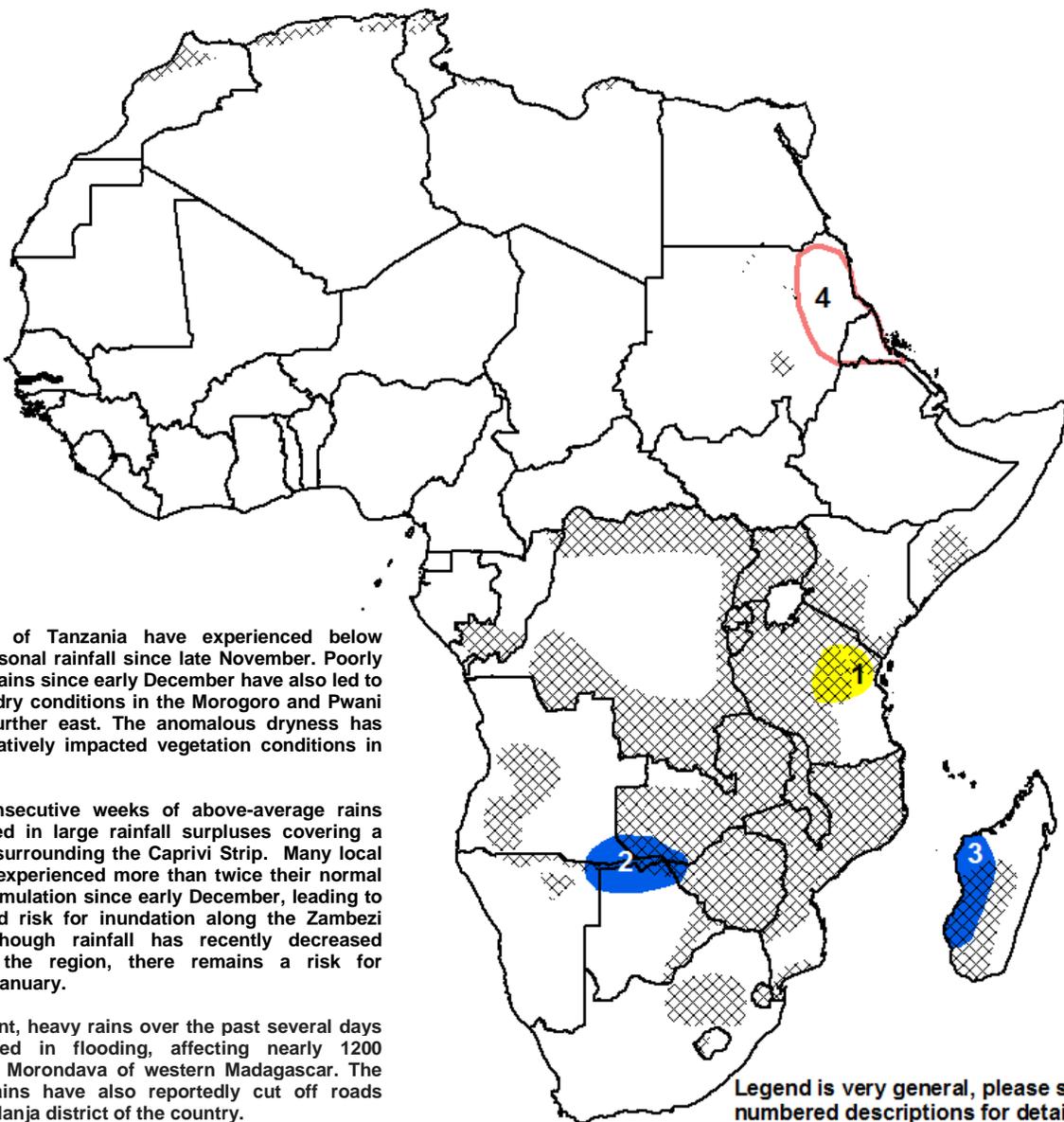




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook January 16 – January 22, 2014

- Average to above-average rainfall continues across southeastern Africa, replenishing ground moisture for many parts of Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique.
- A large scale suppression of rainfall over southwestern Africa is expected to provide some relief to saturated ground conditions across the Caprivi Strip region.



1) Portions of Tanzania have experienced below average seasonal rainfall since late November. Poorly distributed rains since early December have also led to developing dry conditions in the Morogoro and Pwani provinces further east. The anomalous dryness has already negatively impacted vegetation conditions in the region.

2) Four consecutive weeks of above-average rains have resulted in large rainfall surpluses covering a broad area surrounding the Caprivi Strip. Many local areas have experienced more than twice their normal rainfall accumulation since early December, leading to an increased risk for inundation along the Zambezi River. Although rainfall has recently decreased throughout the region, there remains a risk for flooding in January.

3) Consistent, heavy rains over the past several days have resulted in flooding, affecting nearly 1200 residents in Morondava of western Madagascar. The abundant rains have also reportedly cut off roads across the Manja district of the country.

4) Winter temperature and moisture conditions remain conducive for a high risk of locust swarms to winter-irrigated crops in the River Nile and Red Sea provinces of northeastern Sudan, and western Eritrea.

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

	January Cropped Areas
	Flooding
	Abnormal Dryness
	Drought
	Severe Drought
	Tropical Cyclone
	Potential Locust Outbreak
	Heavy Snow
	Abnormal Cold
	Abnormal Heat

Seasonally favorable continues across southern Africa.

Compared to the first week of January, the core of the heaviest seasonal rainfall shifted further east over southern Africa. The highest weekly rainfall accumulations (>100mm) were received across portions of Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Madagascar during the last seven days (**Figure 1**). Throughout southwestern Africa, little to locally moderate amounts of precipitation were received following several consecutive weeks of heavy, potentially flood inducing rainfall across the Caprivi Strip region. In Tanzania, moderate to locally heavy rainfall was confined to the west and south, as rains were once more minimal in the east. In South Africa, the highest rainfall accumulations were also observed more in the south, with lesser amounts across the Maize Triangle region of the country.

Over the past 30 days, much of southern Africa has experienced a large scale precipitation recovery which followed a pronounced delayed start of the monsoon throughout several regions in the southeast. Many local areas in eastern Zambia, Malawi, western Mozambique and Madagascar have received consecutive weeks of above-average rainfall, which has helped to neutralize ground moisture deficits, and is likely to lead to more favorable conditions for ongoing cropping activities for the season. Although these regions have been anomalously wet, the greatest 30-day precipitation surpluses still remain concentrated over the Caprivi Strip region due to torrentially heavy rainfall during late December and early January (**Figure 2**). During this time, many local areas in southeastern Angola, northern Namibia, southern Zambia and northern Botswana have received more than twice their normal rainfall accumulation, which is likely to elevate the risk for inundation along the Zambezi River basin.

Despite the above-average moisture conditions, there remain some areas where seasonal precipitation has been below average. In eastern Tanzania, suppressed rainfall had led to developing moisture deficits across the Dodoma, Manyara, Tanga, Morogoro and Pwani provinces of the country. Additionally, poorly distributed rainfall across western Angola has also led to a strengthening of dry conditions. Many of these areas in southwestern Angola have received little to no rainfall since the start of the New Year. A continuation of anomalous dryness in these regions is expected to negatively affect cropping activities for the season.

Precipitation forecasts indicate an increased probability for an enhancement of rainfall across southeastern Africa, with another of week of generally lesser amounts forecast throughout the southwest (**Figure 3**). Above-average rainfall throughout parts of northern Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique is expected to continue to mitigate residual moisture deficits from earlier in the season. Further west, reduced precipitation is also expected to provide ongoing relief to wet condition throughout the Caprivi Strip region. An increase in precipitation over portions of Angola is likely to help offset some of the developing dryness in the southwest.

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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