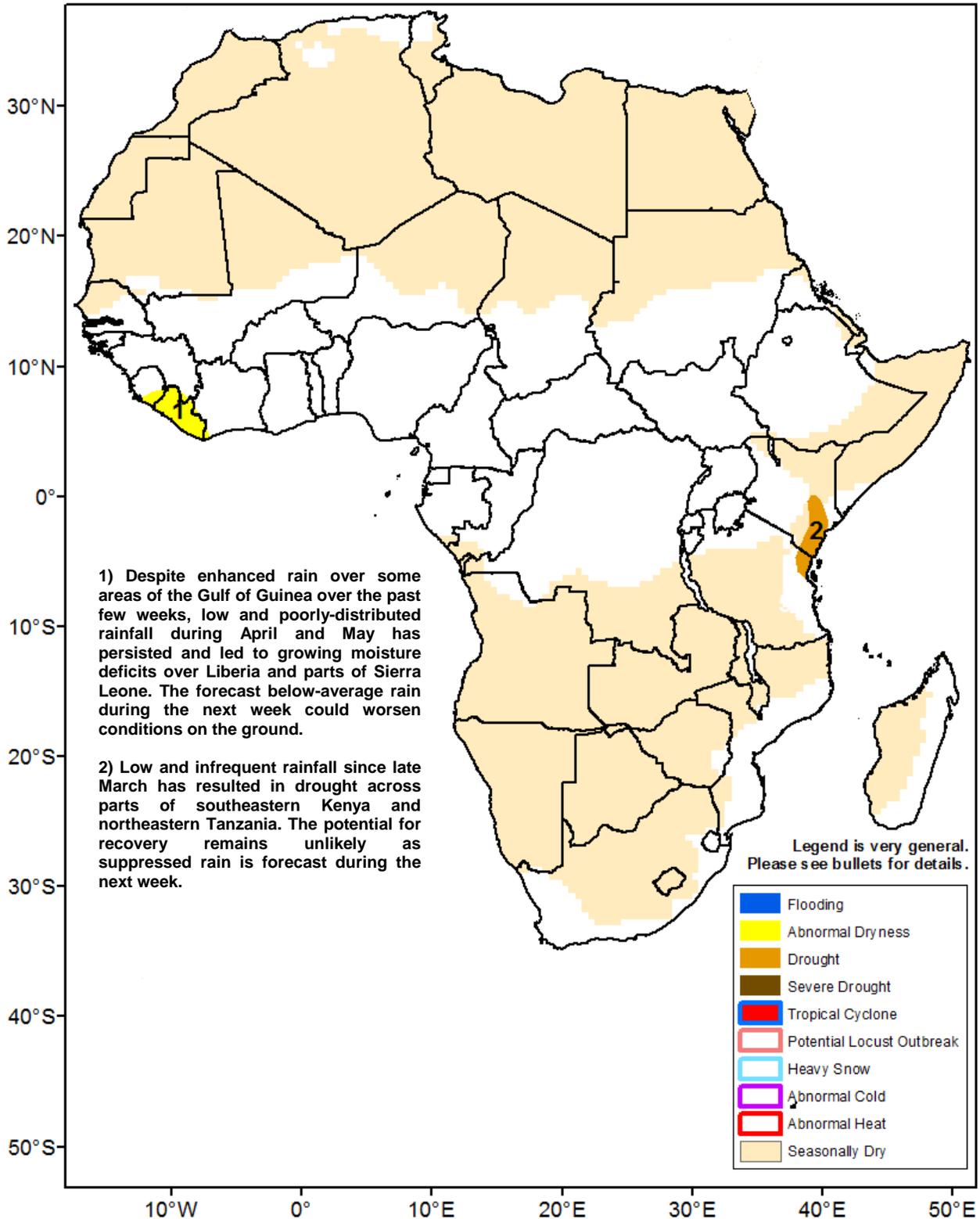




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook June 2 – June 8, 2016

- Enhanced rainfall was observed over portions of the Gulf of Guinea during the past week, but reduced rain is forecast to return across the region during the upcoming week.



Copious amounts of rain received over portions of the Gulf of Guinea.

The spatial distribution of rainfall during the past seven days shows large rainfall totals over Cote d'Ivoire and portions of Ghana, Togo, and Benin. Accumulated rainfall exceeded 75 mm over these areas (**Figure 1**). Abundant rain was also observed over central and eastern Nigeria, extending into Cameroon and areas of central Africa. In Cote d'Ivoire and neighboring Ghana, the consistent heavy and above-average rainfall over the past few weeks has helped relieve dryness and even turned thirty-day rainfall deficits into surpluses over many local areas. In contrast, light (< 25 mm) rainfall was received elsewhere, including some of the dry portions of far western Africa as Liberia and parts of Sierra Leone. This past week's limited rain has contributed to increase moisture deficits further over these areas.

An analysis of the cumulative rainfall during the past month indicates a favorable rainfall performance across much of the Gulf of Guinea, with higher (> 70%) rainfall percentile rankings over portions of Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Guinea-Conakry, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo, Benin, and Nigeria (**Figure 2**). This was due to a surge in on-shore, southerly flow, bringing moisture and inducing weather disturbances into the region. In contrast, very low (< 15%) percentile rankings, indicating that the past month has been among the driest in record, are observed across Liberia and portions of Sierra Leone and localized areas of Guinea-Conakry, Togo, and Nigeria. The drier than average conditions over these areas were attributed to an erratic distribution of rainfall in the region since April. The return of seasonal rain is much needed to overcome rainfall deficits and ensure adequate cropping activities.

During early June, model rainfall forecasts suggest light to localized moderate rain across much of the Gulf of Guinea. The forecasts rainfall amounts are expected to fare below-average, except portions of Guinea-Conakry and north-central Nigeria, where rainfall totals could exceed 50 mm.

Favorable March-May rain observed over areas of Eastern Africa.

Figure 3 shows the ratio of the cumulative rainfall since March in Eastern Africa over that of the long-term average. While most areas, including South Sudan, southern Sudan, northern Ethiopia, and northwestern Somalia have received near-average to above-average (> 80%) rainfall, some areas have accumulated below-average (< 80%) seasonal rain. These include portions of southern Ethiopia, southern and central Somalia, northwestern and eastern Kenya and northeastern Tanzania, where cumulative rainfall has accounted less than 50 percent of the average. During the past week, moderate to heavy rain was observed in western Ethiopia and western South Sudan. During the next week, while scattered, heavy rain is expected to continue in western Ethiopia, light rain is forecast over South Sudan, Uganda, and the Lake Victoria region. Suppressed rain is forecast elsewhere.

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.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.

