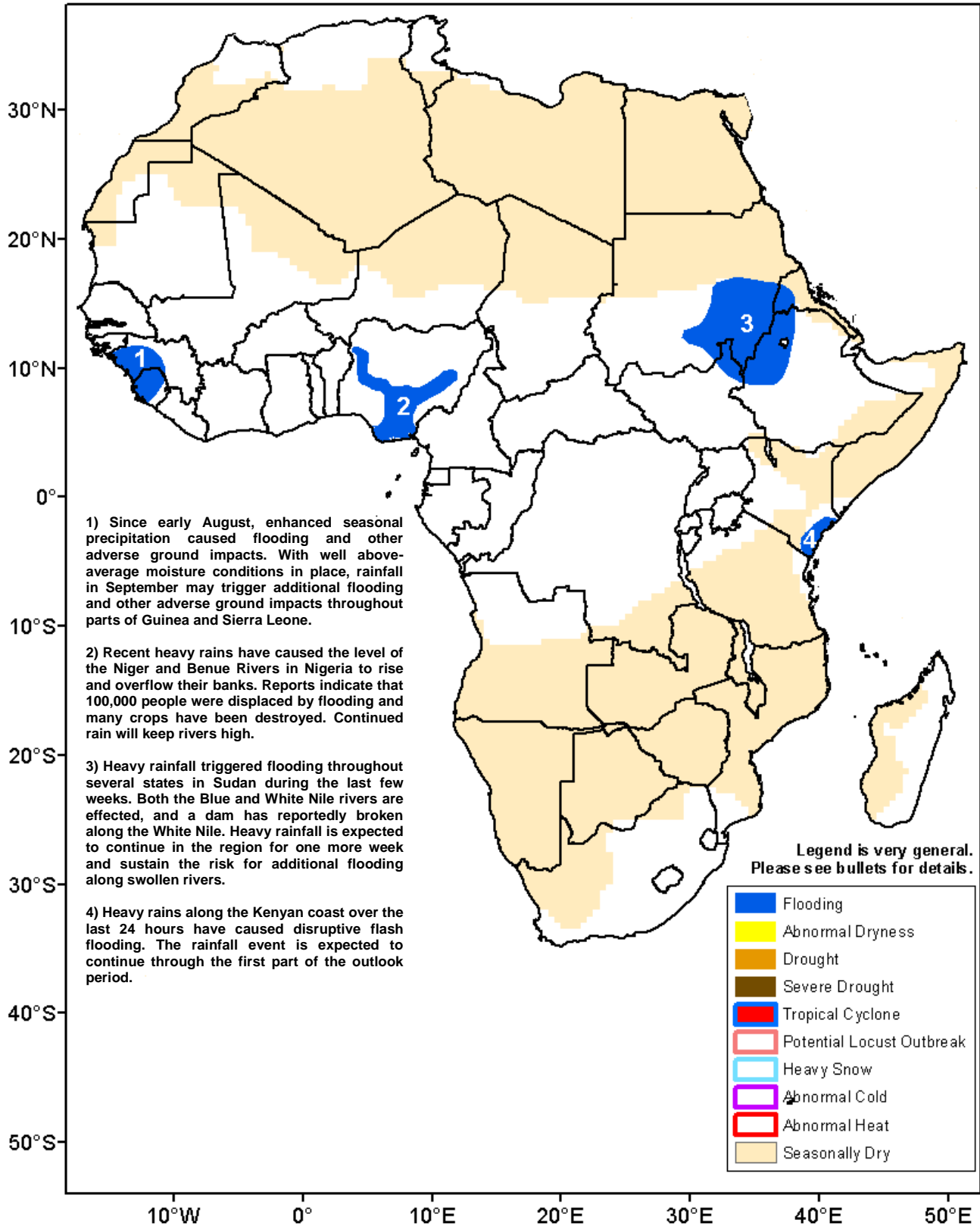




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook September 21 – September 27, 2017

- River flooding continues to be an issue in Nigeria and Sudan after wetter-than-normal Seasons.



Widespread seasonable rains were observed across West Africa.

According to the latest satellite rainfall estimates, West Africa received a mix of above and below average conditions this past week. Rains were spatially well-distributed, but lesser than is typical, especially within the southern Gulf of Guinea countries. Many areas received moderate to heavy (50-100mm) rainfall, including Guinea, Sierra Leone, southern Mali, Burkina Faso and parts of Nigeria (Figure 1). Such totals resulted in significant positive anomalies in Mali and Burkina Faso, but merely registered as near-normal in Guinea. Areas of southern Côte D'Ivoire, Togo, Benin and Nigeria received lighter rains which registered as below normal for the 7-day period.

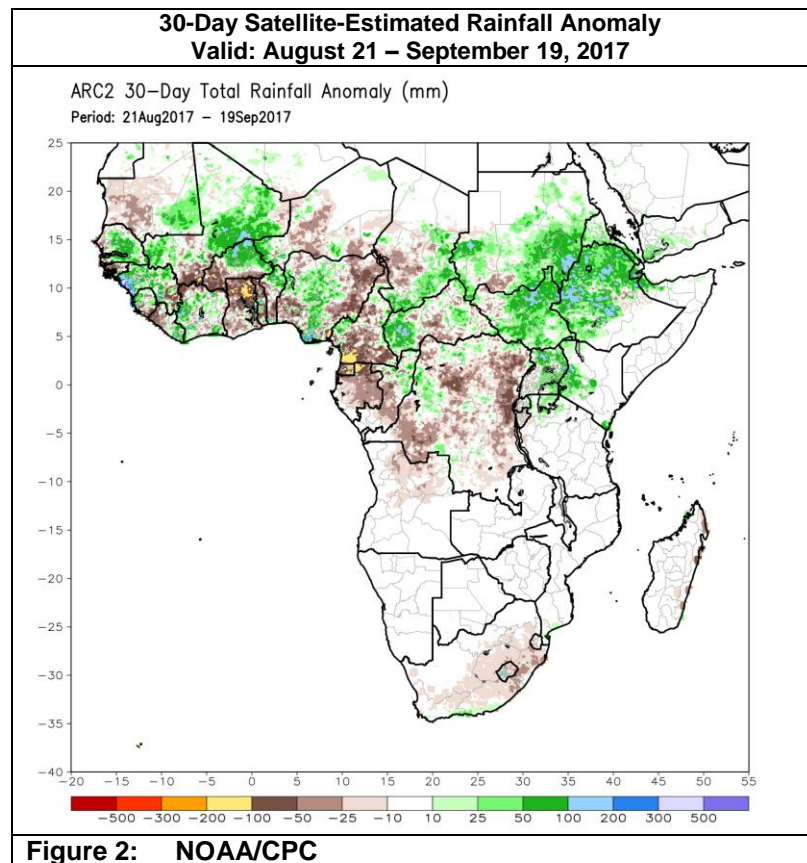
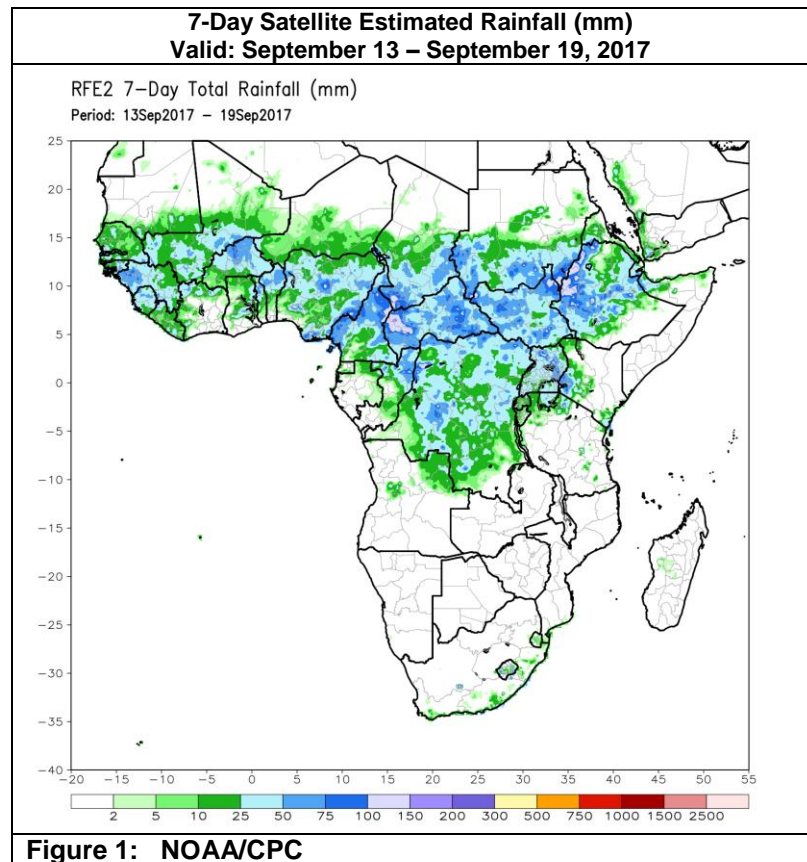
The summer monsoon brought ample precipitation to almost the entire region. This has persisted for many areas during the previous 30-day period, but a few regions have experienced a change towards dryness with building deficits. Of greatest interest, southern Burkina Faso and northern Ghana have received 50 to 200mm less rainfall than normal since mid-August (Figure 2). Such deficits have resulted in low SPI values for these local areas, but there are other indications that crops may have sufficient moisture for development. Other areas, such as western Guinea, as well as central Mali and Burkina Faso, have seen heavy rains persist and carry large 30-day surpluses. This surplus wetness inundated river basins and is causing major flooding issues downstream along the Niger River in Nigeria.

During the outlook period, weather models suggest localized enhancement of precipitation will continue for western Gulf of Guinea countries. This region may be sandwiched between areas of suppressed rainfall to north over Senegal and to the south along the Gulf of Guinea coastline.

Persistent heavy rains continue to trigger floods throughout Sudan.

Rainfall coverage was ideal across climatologically active regions of East Africa over the last 7 days. Most areas received near or above-normal amounts of rain. The greatest rainfall totals (>100mm) were received along the Ethiopia-Sudan border (Figure 1). Nearly 100mm of rain was observed in Uganda and western Kenya. Heavy rain showers additionally occurred in coastal Kenya where up to 92mm was measured in 24 hours. Some rains began to spread into northern Somalia. Heavy rains, both recently and over the whole season, have caused the Blue and White Nile Rivers to swell out of their banks resulting in damages to infrastructure. Persistently enhanced rains across many regions in East Africa over the past several weeks have resulted in wide swaths of large positive precipitation anomalies since Mid-August. Vegetation Indices reflect the wet nature of the season, showing very positive values throughout.

For the outlook period, near or above-normal rainfall is forecast for the region. Above-normal totals exceeding 100mm are possible in western Ethiopia. Elsewhere, rains should continue to spread into northern Somalia and push inland from the coast of Tanzania, Kenya and southern Somalia



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.