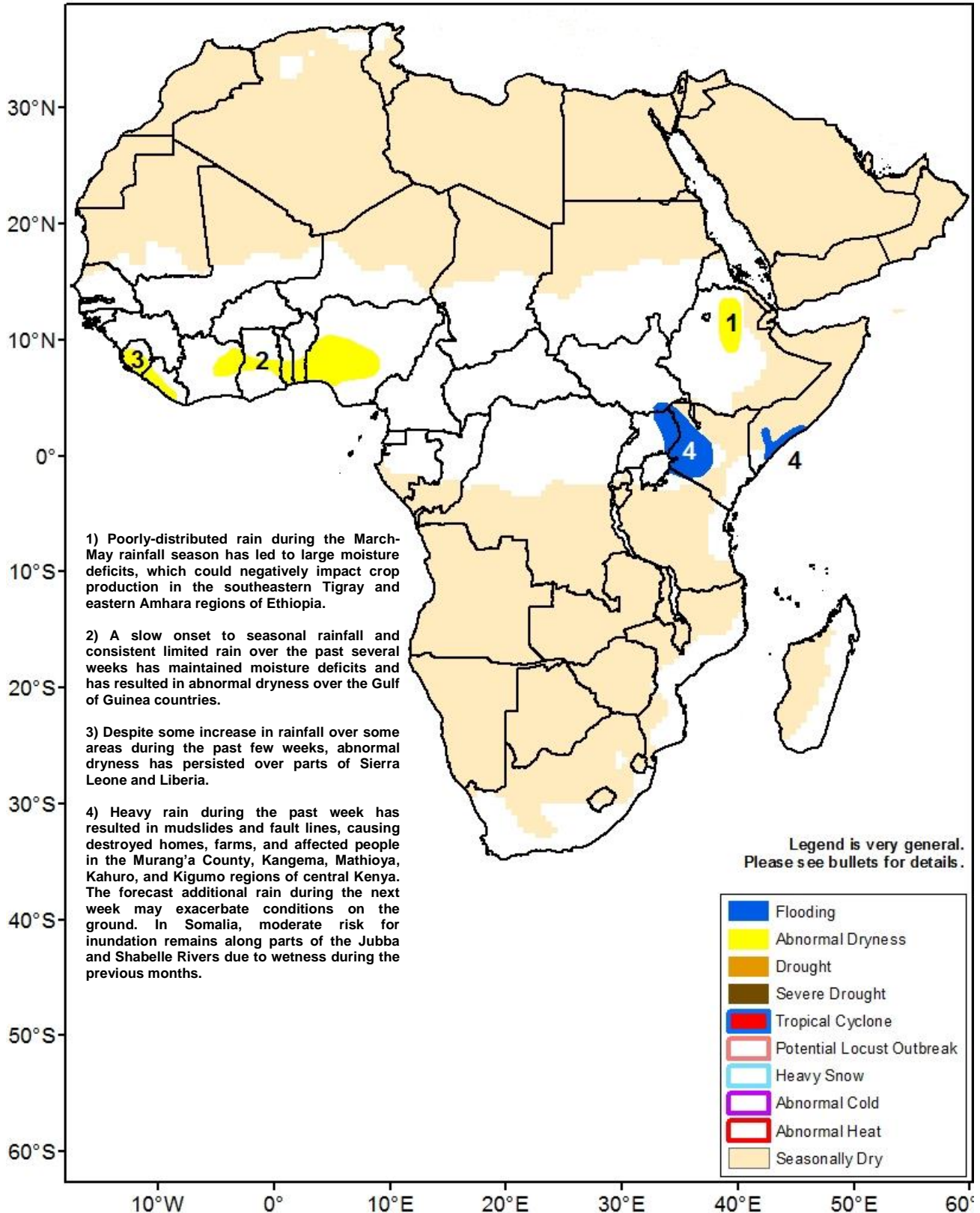




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook June 14 – 20, 2018

- Insufficient rain since the start of the season has resulted in abnormal dryness along the Gulf of Guinea.
- The forecast abundant rain during the next week maintains high risks for flooding in Kenya.



Reduced rain continued across the interior of the Gulf of Guinea countries during the past week.

From June 6-12, limited (< 25 mm) rain fell across central Cote d'Ivoire, northern Ghana, northern Togo, northwestern Benin, and east-central Nigeria. Little to light rain was also received over Guinea-Bissau, eastern Burkina Faso, and southern Niger. In contrast, moderate to heavy rain was recorded across Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, eastern Liberia, coastal Cote d'Ivoire, southern Ghana, western Burkina Faso, western Niger, western Nigeria, and southern Chad (**Figure 1**). For the far western West Africa region, this past week's enhanced rain contributed to eroding thirty-day rainfall deficits over Guinea-Conakry and Sierra Leone. Similarly, along the Gulf of Guinea, heavy downpours helped reduce moisture deficits over many local areas of western Nigeria.

Over the past thirty days, above-average rain was recorded across Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, central Mali, coastal Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, western Niger, northern parts Ghana, Togo, Benin, western Nigeria, and southern Chad. In contrast, below-average rain, with large deficits was registered over central Cote d'Ivoire, west-central Ghana, and portions of Nigeria. Due to the return of good rain during the recent weeks over the far western Africa, some improvement in vegetation conditions were observed across Guinea-Conakry and Sierra Leone.

During the next week, an increase in rain is forecast over West Africa, with abundant rain across Guinea-Conakry and Sierra Leone and moderate to heavy rain throughout the Gulf of Guinea countries to southern Chad. The return of favorable rain should help reduce or eliminate moisture deficits and mitigate dryness over many local areas of the region.

Wetter than average conditions observed over eastern Africa

An analysis of the cumulative rain over the past thirty days has indicated that much of eastern Africa has received abundant and above-average rain. Positive rainfall anomalies were registered over western Kenya, eastern South Sudan, southern Sudan, western Ethiopia, and eastern Yemen, where surpluses exceeded 100 mm over some local areas (**Figure 2**). In contrast, small to moderate rainfall deficits emerged over localized areas of eastern Sudan and northern Ethiopia. During the past week, abundant rain continued over western Ethiopia, southern Sudan, western South Sudan, eastern Uganda, and western Kenya. Over Kenya, this past week's enhanced rain caused mudslides and fault lines, which destroyed houses, farms, and led to many affected people in the Murang'a County, Kangema, Mathiyoa, Kahuro, and Kigumo regions of the country. The continuation of enhanced rain maintains the risks for flooding over many already-saturated areas of Kenya.

Due to increased rain during the past few weeks, vegetation conditions have improved over western Ethiopia, whereas some deterioration in conditions have been observed in southern Sudan, according to Vegetation Health Index short-term tendency.

During the next week, wet weather patterns are forecast over eastern Africa, with heavy downpours over western Ethiopia and southwestern Kenya, which could trigger flooding over local areas. Moderate to heavy rain is also expected over Eritrea, southern Sudan, South Sudan, and northern Uganda. Light to locally moderate rain is possible in northern Somalia and western Yemen.

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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