Abnormal dryness strengthens over South Sudan due to an insufficient rain since May.

Heavy rain triggered landslides and flooding in southeastern Cote d'Ivoire and southwestern South Africa.

1) A poor distribution of rainfall since the beginning of the March-May season developed droughts across a large portion of East Africa. Areas, including north-central and eastern Ethiopia, along the Kenya-Ethiopia border, much of Somalia, and southern Kenya, where dryness is most acute (less than 50% of normal) and most persistent are now classified under severe drought.

2) Insufficient rain since early May has resulted in growing moisture deficits and abnormal dryness in central South Sudan.

3) Insufficient and uneven rainfall since the start of the monsoon has resulted in significant moisture deficits and abnormal dryness in northeastern Nigeria.

4) This past week’s abundant rain triggered landslides, killing at least 6 people over Abidjan in Cote d’Ivoire, according to reports. The forecast heavy rain maintains high risks for flooding over the region during the outlook period.

5) Heavy rains over the past week led to flooding over areas in Cape Town and the Western Cape Province in South Africa. The forecast additional rain could exacerbate conditions over previously-flooded areas during the next week.
Dryness grows over South Sudan.

Over the past thirty days, total rainfall was below-average over central South Sudan, southern Sudan, southernmost Somalia, and eastern Kenya. The largest thirty-day rainfall deficits were observed over northern South Sudan, where moisture deficits exceeded 100 mm (Figure 1). The drier-than-average conditions were attributable to an insufficient rainfall since May. During this past week, while abundant rains were received over western Ethiopia, western South Sudan, and western Uganda, little to light rain fell over central South Sudan and suppressed rain was recorded elsewhere. This past week’s limited and reduced rain helped maintain dryness in the region.

An analysis of recent vegetation products has showed that stressed vegetation and below-average conditions were present over west-central South Sudan and over a major part of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia. If poorly-distributed rains continue over the upcoming weeks, a further deterioration in ground conditions will likely ensue over many local areas in the region.

During the outlook period, heavy and above-average rain is forecast over western Ethiopia and along the border with Sudan. Moderate and near to above-average rain is expected over South Sudan, northern Uganda, southwestern Kenya, and southern coastal Somalia.

Widespread good rains fell over West Africa.

During mid-June, a favorable distribution in rainfall was observed over West Africa. Widespread moderate rain fell over the Sahel and along much of the Gulf of Guinea. The largest rainfall accumulation was registered across southeastern Cote d’Ivoire and southwestern Ghana, where totals exceeded 100 mm (Figure 2). This past week’s abundant rain has triggered landslides over Abidjan in Cote d’Ivoire, killing at least 6 people, according to reports. Yopougon recorded 161 mm of rainfall in 12 hours prior to 21 June, according to the Ivory Coast Meteorological Agency. Reports also indicated flooding over Accra in Ghana, causing many people affected. This past thirty days, while most areas in West Africa experienced wetter-than-average conditions, eastern Liberia, southwestern Cote d’Ivoire, central Mali, and areas in southern, central, and northeastern Nigeria experienced drier-than-average conditions.

An analysis of the latest agro-climatic products has showed that biomass conditions improved over West Africa due to recent increase in rainfall. However, deteriorated vegetation conditions persisted over areas in the Sahel such as southern Mali and areas in northern Nigeria.

During the outlook period, heavy rains are forecast over the far western West Africa including Guinea-Conakry, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and southern Cote d’Ivoire, and eastern Gulf of Guinea, including southern Nigeria. The forecast enhanced rain maintains heightened risks for flooding over many local areas. Light rains are expected over the Sahel.
Figure 3: Hazards, focused over eastern Africa

Figure 4: Hazards, focused over West Africa