

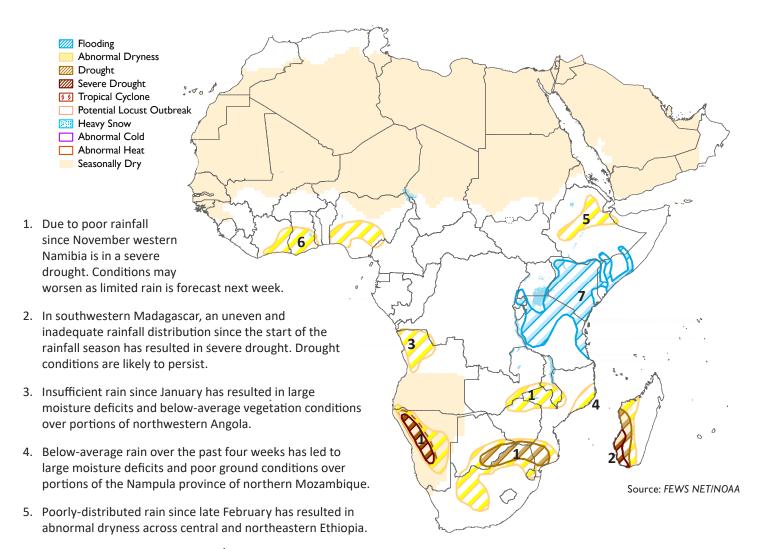
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# **Global Weather Hazards Summary**

April 27 - May 3, 2018

# Flooding spreads in East Africa as heavy rainfall continues

#### **Africa Weather Hazards**



- 6. A slow onset to seasonal rainfall across the southern Gulf of Guinea countries has led to strengthening moisture deficits throughout the region.
- 7. Several consecutive weeks of enhanced rainfall over many parts of Kenya, southern Somalia, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda has led to flooding. Continued heavy rainfall is forecast for at least another week. River basins experiencing inundation include the Jubba and Shebelle in Somalia, and the Kawalase and Tana in Ethiopia.



#### **Africa Overview**

## Average rainfall recorded in Ethiopia

Last week, widespread seasonal rainfall continued over the Greater Horn of Africa. To the south, heavy rainfall was recorded throughout southern Ethiopia, Kenya, and coastal Tanzania, with local areas receiving more than 150mm (Figure 1). The Heaviest rains caused flooding issues and fatalities in many areas of Kenya and along the Jubba and Shebelle river basins. Towards the west, a favorable distribution of rains was observed in South Sudan.

April rainfall was average in Ethiopia following earlier delays in seasonal rainfall. While the precipitation has helped to mitigate anomalous dryness, there are still many areas in the northern Oromia, eastern Amhara, eastern Tigray, and northern Somali that remain well below average since early March (Figure 2). The largest moisture deficits remain near Dire Dawa over the Shinile zone of Ethiopia, where many local areas have experienced less than a quarter of their normal rainfall accumulation for period. Any further reduction in rainfall would likely impact ground conditions.

Further south, extremely large seasonal moisture surpluses (100-300+mm) continue to encompass much of Kenya and northern Tanzania due to heavy rainfall during March and April. Southern Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania have received average seasonal rainfall through the end of May.

Many parts of the Southern Africa experienced above normal rainfall through the end of the season, however, areas that include northwestern Angola and Madagascar still record significant 30-day rainfall deficits.

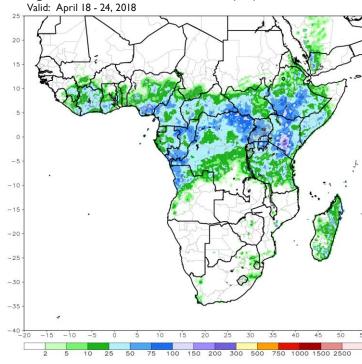
Next week, models suggest heavy rainfall over East Africa. Seven-day totals of more than 50mm are expected in southern Ethiopia, eastern Kenya, and northern Tanzania. Typical late April rainfall is expected to help alleviate seasonal dryness in Belg-producing areas.

#### Delayed rainfall in southern Gulf of Guinea

For several consecutive weeks, light and poorly distributed rainfall has been recorded over southern Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, and southwestern Nigeria. A few portions of southern Ghana and Cote D'Ivoire received average rainfall last week. Since early March, many local areas have reported half of their normally accumulated rainfall.

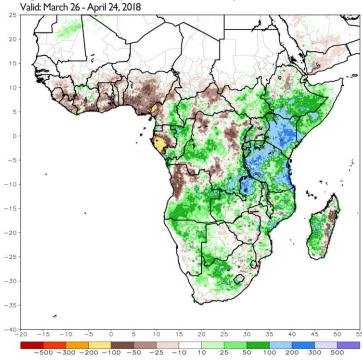
During the next week, near or slightly below-average rain is forecast for the Gulf of Guinea countries.

Figure 1: RFE2 Satellite Estimated Rainfall (mm)



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 2: ARC 30-day Total Rainfall Anomaly



Source: NOAA/CPC

#### **Central Asia Weather Hazards**

#### **Temperatures**

Following an extended period of above-normal temperatures during March and early April, temperatures averaged near to below-normal throughout much of the region last week. Minimum temperatures fell below 5°C across southern areas of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and along with western Afghanistan, but freezing temperatures were limited to the higher elevations. Above-normal temperatures are likely to return to Central Asia next week. An abnormal heat hazard is posted for areas where maximum temperatures are forecast to average more than 6°C and exceed 30°C.

# Precipitation

Widespread precipitation (10-64mm) was observed across southeast Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, southern Turkmenistan

Flooding Abnormal Dryness Drought Severe Drought **55** Tropical Cyclone Potential Locust Outbreak Heavy Snow Abnormal Cold Abnormal Heat

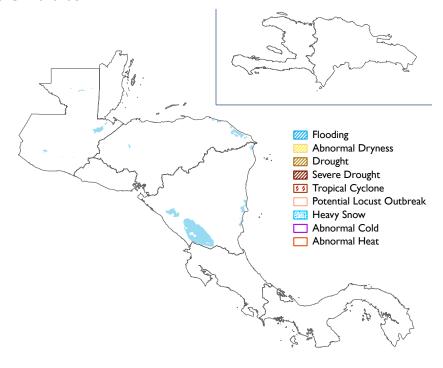
Source: FEWS NET/NOAA

and Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Afghanistan from April 15 to 21. The abnormal dryness and drought polygon has shrunk over Afghanistan and northern Pakistan. Drought hazards are posted for parts of Afghanistan and adjacent countries based on large 6-month precipitation deficits, low snow water content, and expected negative impacts to agriculture.

Additional precipitation (mostly less than 25 mm, liquid equivalent) is forecast across the higher elevations of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan next week.

### Central America and the Caribbean Weather Hazards

No hazards reported



Source: FEWS NET/NOAA

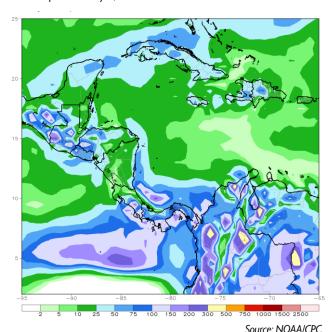
#### Central America and the Caribbean Overview

#### Primera rainfall is slightly below average

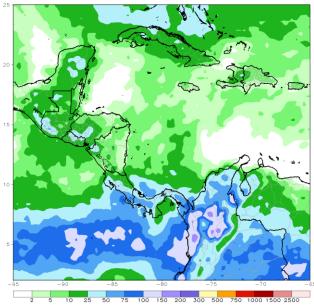
Last week, light rain fell in the region. The highest weekly accumulations (>100mm) were observed in the southern Caribbean. Parts of southern Guatemala, along with the Colon and Olancho departments of Honduras recorded more the 25mm of rainfall. Over the past 30 days, analysis of early *Primera* season moisture anomalies suggests below-average conditions. Ground conditions are generally satisfactory, although recent trends show that degradation is beginning.

During the next week, rainfall is forecast for parts of central and southern Guatemala, El Salvador and western Honduras. Seven-day rainfall is likely to exceed 75mm in local areas. Heavier rains (>100mm) may also occur throughout Costa Rica and Panama. Meanwhile, light rainfall is expected in eastern Honduras and Nicaragua.

Figure 4: GEFS mean total rainfall forecast (mm) Valid: April 26 - May 2, 2018



**Figure 5:** CMORPH rainfall climatology (mm) Valid: April 26 - May 2, 2018



Source: NOAA/CPC

#### Substantial rainfall was received in central parts of the island

The center department of Haiti, as well as neighboring departments of the Dominican Republic received as much as 150mm of rainfall last week. Many other parts of the island received less than 50mm. Rainfall was near normal for the rest of the island. Since early March, slightly below-average rains have resulted in deficits ranging generally between 10-50mm. The greatest of these deficits are found along the northern Dominican coast. Ground conditions are currently favorable. Above-average rainfall is expected next week.

## ABOUT WEATHER HAZARDS

Hazard maps are based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week) and 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.