











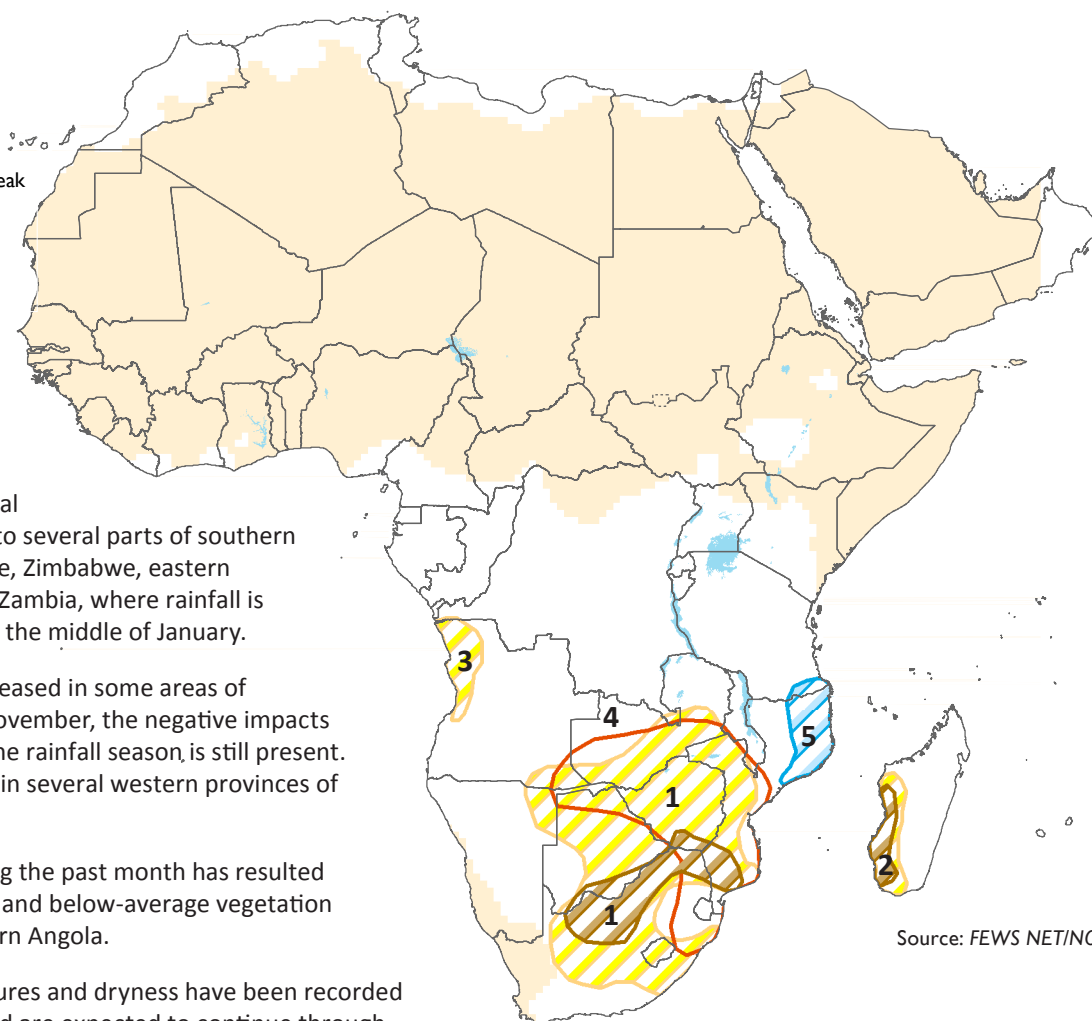
Global Weather Hazards Summary

January 26 - February 1, 2018

Drought reported, as high temperatures and dry conditions continue in southern Africa

Africa Weather Hazards

-  Flooding
-  Abnormal Dryness
-  Drought
-  Severe Drought
-  Tropical Cyclone
-  Potential Locust Outbreak
-  Heavy Snow
-  Abnormal Cold
-  Abnormal Heat
-  Seasonally Dry



Source: FEWS NET/NOAA

1. Since November, rainfall has been below-average in South Africa. The early season abnormal dryness has expanded into several parts of southern and western Mozambique, Zimbabwe, eastern Botswana, and southern Zambia, where rainfall is forecast to be low during the middle of January.
2. Although rainfall has increased in some areas of Madagascar since mid-November, the negative impacts of the delayed onset of the rainfall season is still present. Rainfall is below average in several western provinces of the island.
3. Below-average rain during the past month has resulted in large moisture deficits and below-average vegetation conditions in northwestern Angola.
4. Unusually high temperatures and dryness have been recorded in southeastern Africa and are expected to continue through January.
5. Heavy rainfall over northern Mozambique and southern Tanzania since early January has increased risk of flooding. Above-average rainfall is forecast in the region during late January.

Africa Overview

Very dry conditions continue in southern Africa

Similar to the previous week, heavy rainfall activity continued across many northern Zambia, northern Malawi, northern Mozambique, northern Madagascar, and southern Tanzania, with totals exceeding 100mm for many areas. Towards the south, however, rainfall was extremely limited (0-10mm) across Botswana, Zimbabwe, neighboring portions of Mozambique, southern Madagascar, and northern South Africa. A slight increase in rainfall was received over southern South Africa, southern Angola, and northern Namibia (**Figure 1**).

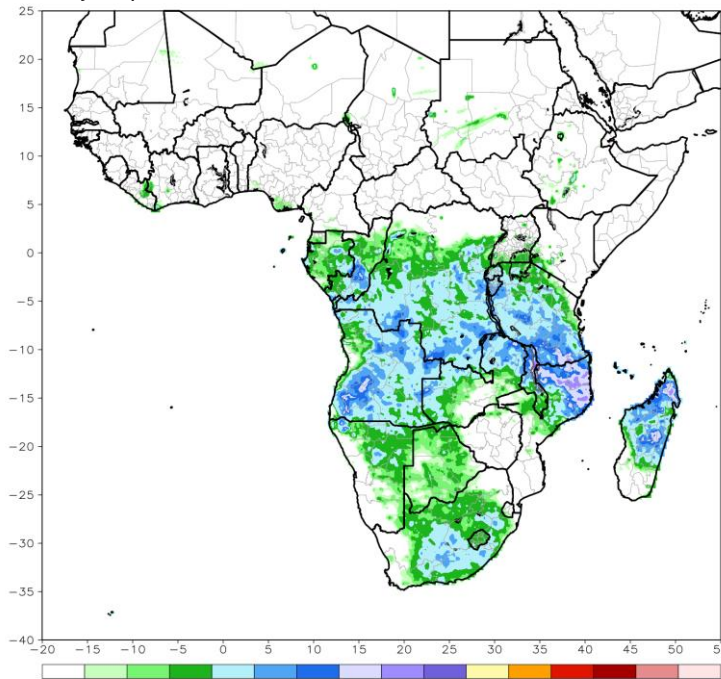
Limited rainfall in southern Africa has increased concerns for drought, water availability and impacts on cropping activities. Since the beginning of the monsoon, many areas have experienced a delayed onset or poorly distributed rainfall. Although some of early seasonal dryness was offset by rainfall during November and December, seasonal rainfall has been below-average across much of the southern continent since late December. Deteriorating crop conditions have been observed in some parts of South Africa.

Many regions in Zambia, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and South Africa recorded less than half of their normal rainfall accumulation over the last 30 days (**Figure 2**). In parts of South Africa and southern Mozambique, several areas have received less than a quarter of their normal rainfall. This dryness has been associated an anomalous monsoon circulation, where the bulk of heavy seasonal rainfall has occurred and continues over Tanzania, northern Malawi, northern Mozambique and northern Madagascar. Combined with unusually high temperatures in January, drought conditions have been reported. Although there remains time for moisture recovery due to the length of the monsoon, fully recovery is unlikely. This comes at a time where seasonal rainfall normally reaches its peak.

Next week, little relief to the anomalous dryness is expected. Above average rainfall is forecast well north of the Zambezi River. Portions of South Africa are more likely to see increased rainfall amounts in late January.

Figure 1: RFE2 Satellite-Estimated Rainfall (mm)

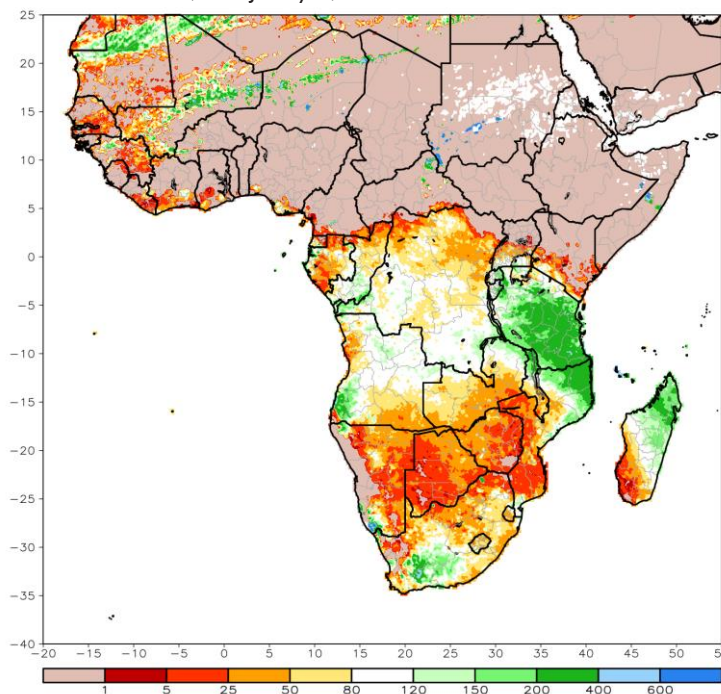
Valid: January 17 - 23, 2018



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 2: ARC 30-Day Percent of Normal (%)

Valid: December 25, 2017 - January 23, 2018



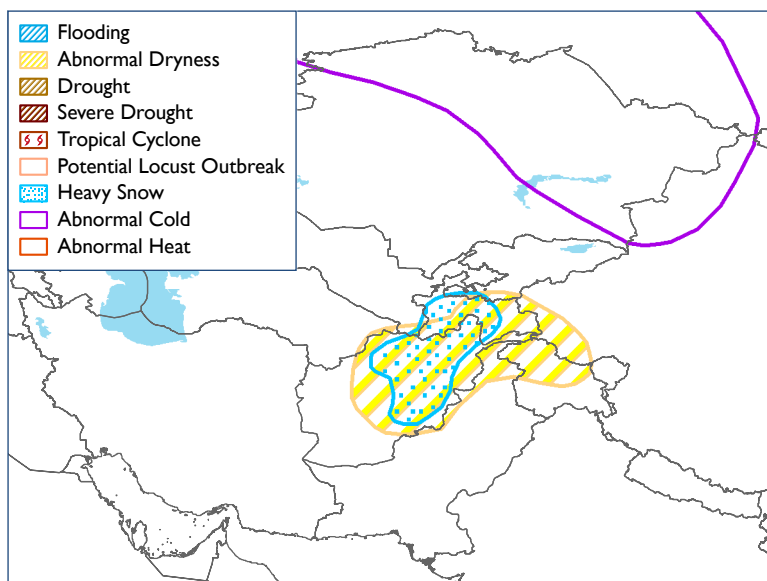
Source: NOAA/CPC

Central Asia Weather Hazards

Temperatures

Below-normal temperatures prevailed across Kazakhstan from January 14 to 20 with the largest negative anomalies of -8 to -10°C observed in western and central Kazakhstan. Minimum temperatures fell below -30°C across central and northeast Kazakhstan during the past week. Above-normal temperatures were observed across Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and southern parts of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Early next week, minimum temperatures may average more than 15°C below normal in northeast Kazakhstan. Minimum temperatures are expected to fall below -35°C in northeast Kazakhstan, where an abnormal cold hazard is posted.



Source: FEWS NET/NOAA

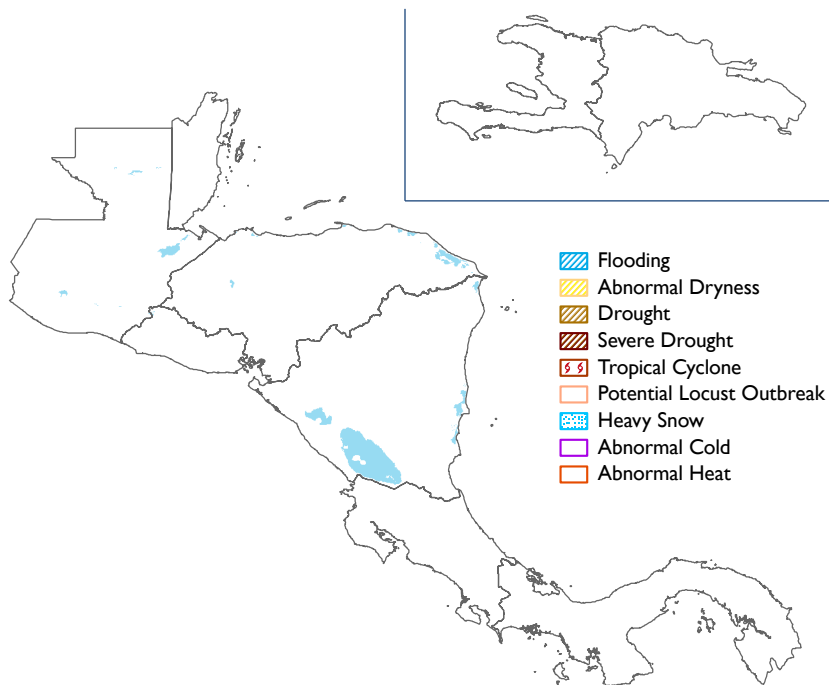
Precipitation

Widespread precipitation (2-32mm, liquid equivalent) was limited to southeast Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan from January 14 to 20, with only light precipitation (8mm or less) observed across western Tajikistan. Based on below-average snow water equivalent values, an abnormal dryness hazard is posted for much Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

Widespread snowfall (locally more than 25mm, liquid equivalent) is expected across Tajikistan along with northern and central parts of northern and central Afghanistan during the final week of January. A heavy snow hazard is posted for these areas.

Central America and the Caribbean Weather Hazards

No Hazards Posted



Source: FEWS NET/NOAA

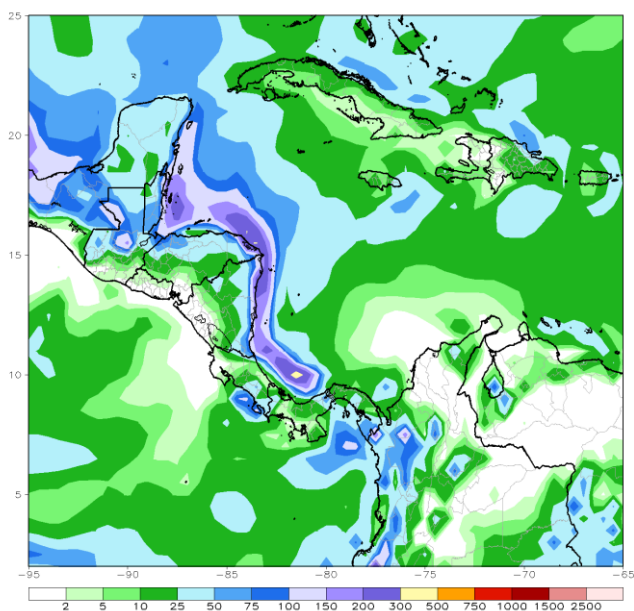
Central America and the Caribbean Overview

Normal temperatures and rain for next week

Rainy conditions were observed throughout regions along the Caribbean coastline last week (10-50mm), with the largest amounts recorded in northern Honduras. Heavy rain also fell in eastern Costa Rica and southern Nicaragua (>200mm). Elsewhere, much of Guatemala, El Salvador, Southern Honduras and western Nicaragua remained dry. Thus far, performance during the Apante season has been near normal across much of Guatemala, El Salvador, Belize, and western Honduras. Contrastingly, eastern Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, has been wetter than average with positive rainfall anomalies exceeding 200mm, in some cases. Vegetation is mostly healthy. Cooler than normal temperatures and near freezing lows continued into last week.

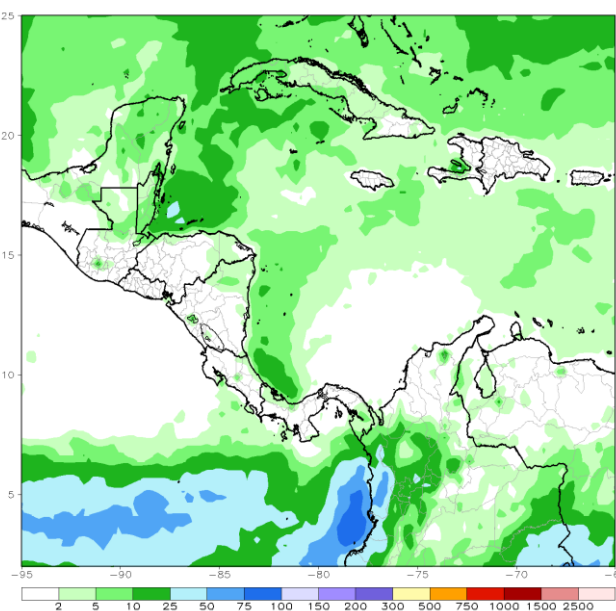
Over the next week, rain is expected to continue over the Caribbean Sea adjacent areas of Central America and possibly central portions of Guatemala. Temperatures should return to normal.

Figure 4: GEFS mean total rainfall forecast (mm)
Valid: January 24 - 31, 2018



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 5: CMORPH rainfall climatology (mm)
Valid: January 17 - 31, 2018



Source: NOAA/CPC

Scattered light rains affected parts of the island during the past week

Less than 25mm of rainfall were observed in parts of central Haiti and Dominican Republic last week. Many other parts of the island did not receive any rainfall. Relatively dry conditions are normal for the time of year, so the past week's rain did not result in 7-day rainfall anomalies. Over the last 30 days, rainfall performance has been near to or wetter than average. The wetter conditions have generally been found across southern and western portions of Hispaniola. Vegetation health indices depict favorable conditions across most of the island. Weather models forecast scattered light rain showers next week, typical for mid-January. The greatest chances for up to 25mm of rain are along the northeastern coast of the Dominican Republic.

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.