FEWS NET
FAMINE EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS NETWORK

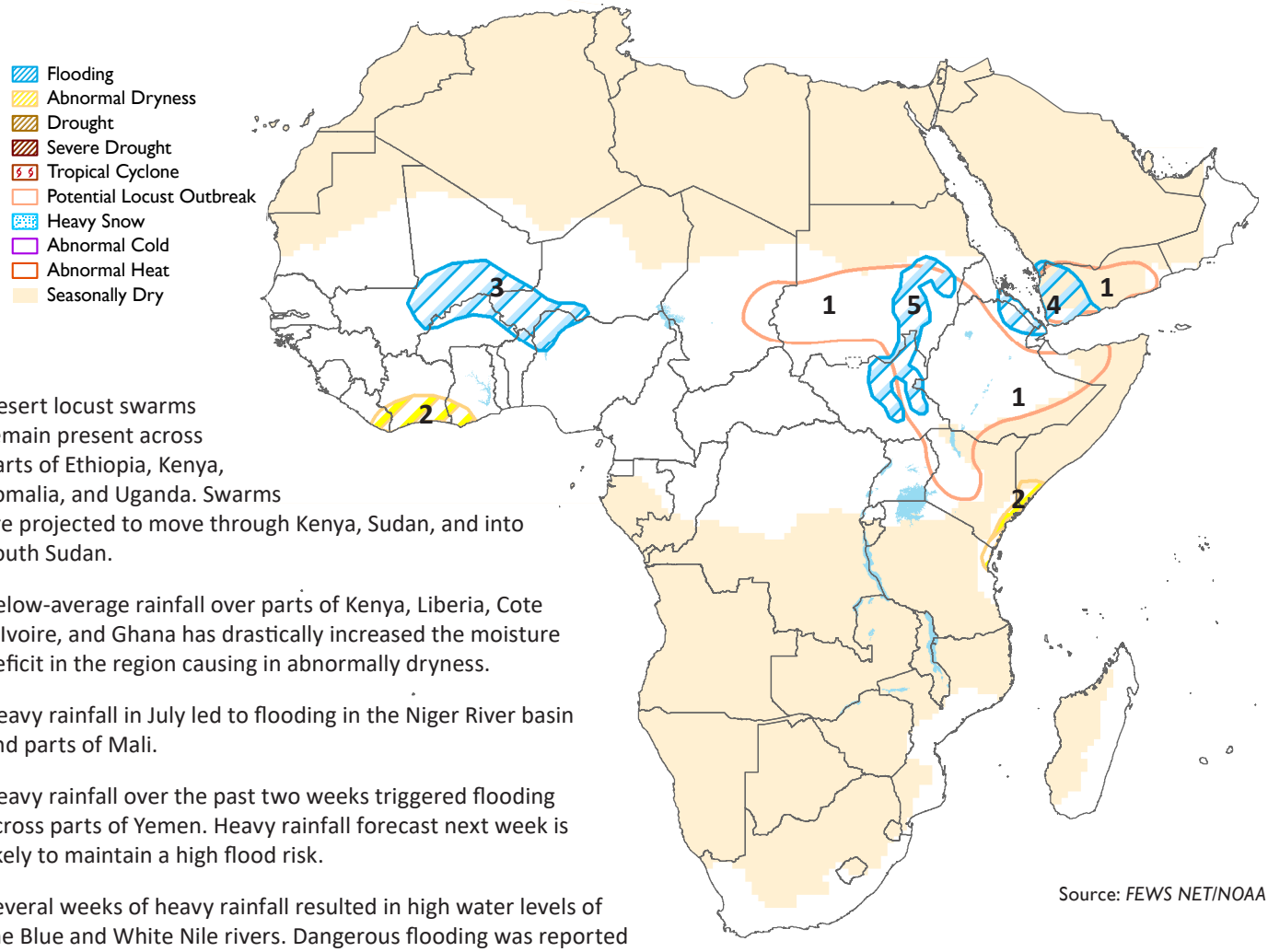
NOAA

Global Weather Hazards Summary

August 7 - 13, 2020

Parts of Liberia and Cote d'Ivoire remain dry while heavy rainfall triggers flooding across West and East Africa

Africa Weather Hazards



1. Desert locust swarms remain present across parts of Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, and Uganda. Swarms are projected to move through Kenya, Sudan, and into South Sudan.
2. Below-average rainfall over parts of Kenya, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, and Ghana has drastically increased the moisture deficit in the region causing in abnormally dryness.
3. Heavy rainfall in July led to flooding in the Niger River basin and parts of Mali.
4. Heavy rainfall over the past two weeks triggered flooding across parts of Yemen. Heavy rainfall forecast next week is likely to maintain a high flood risk.
5. Several weeks of heavy rainfall resulted in high water levels of the Blue and White Nile rivers. Dangerous flooding was reported in Khartoum.

Source: *FEWS NET/NOAA*

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Africa Overview

Areas in some Gulf of Guinea countries remain abnormally dry

Last week much of the Sahel region recorded above-average rainfall, with the heaviest totals observed in southern Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Cameroon, and Chad (**Figure 1**). Lighter rainfall was recorded across the Sahel, Mauritania, and northern Niger. Below-average rainfall was observed along the Gulf of Guinea coast. Over the past 30-days, the Sahel has experienced wetter-than-average conditions with many areas recording positive rainfall surpluses (**Figure 1**). The increased rainfall has led to rising river levels and flooding, especially in the Niger River basin of Mali and Niger. Meanwhile, rainfall deficits are present in southern parts of Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, and Ghana which saw decreased rainfall over the past month.

Next week, above-average rainfall is forecast for southern Senegal, southern Mali, and Burkina Faso. Heavy rainfall is expected for southeastern Niger and Chad. Continued heavy rainfall for much of the region will maintain a high flood risk, while very light rainfall is expected to continue over the southern Gulf of Guinea countries.

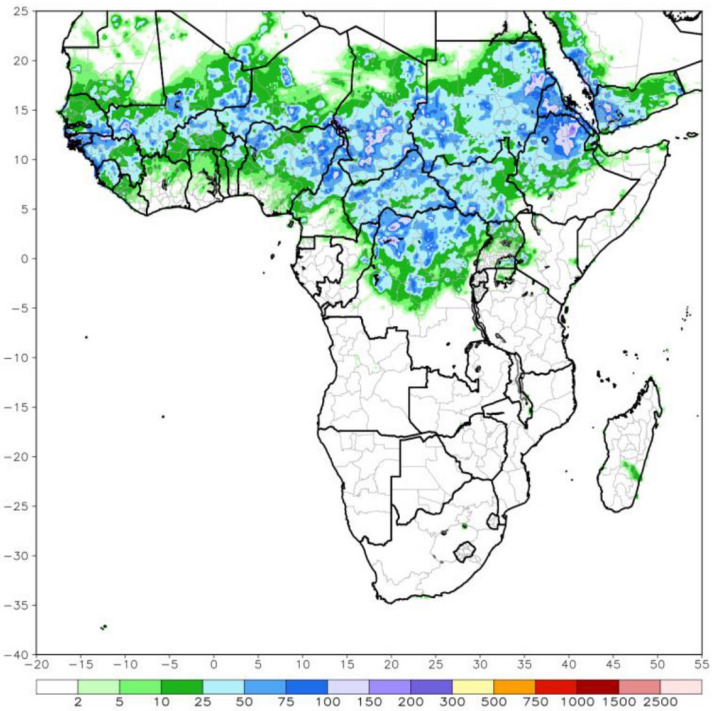
Yemen receives heavy rainfall

Above-normal rainfall was received last week in many areas of East Africa. For a second consecutive week, extremely heavy and abnormal rainfall was observed over Yemen which triggered flooding (**Figure 1**). Areas in Eritrea, northern Ethiopia, eastern Sudan, and South Sudan also recorded heavy rainfall and reported some flooding. Slightly below-average rainfall was observed in southwestern Ethiopia. Rainfall performance over East Africa has been favorable over a major part of the region over the past 30-days (**Figure 2**). Persistent heavy rainfall and 30-day surpluses have led to high water levels along the Blue and White Nile Rivers in Sudan and South Sudan, while coastal areas of Kenya are still observing a poor rainfall performance.

Increased rainfall over the western coast of Yemen could accelerate and increase locust breeding giving rise to numerous hoppers bands and swarms over the coming weeks.

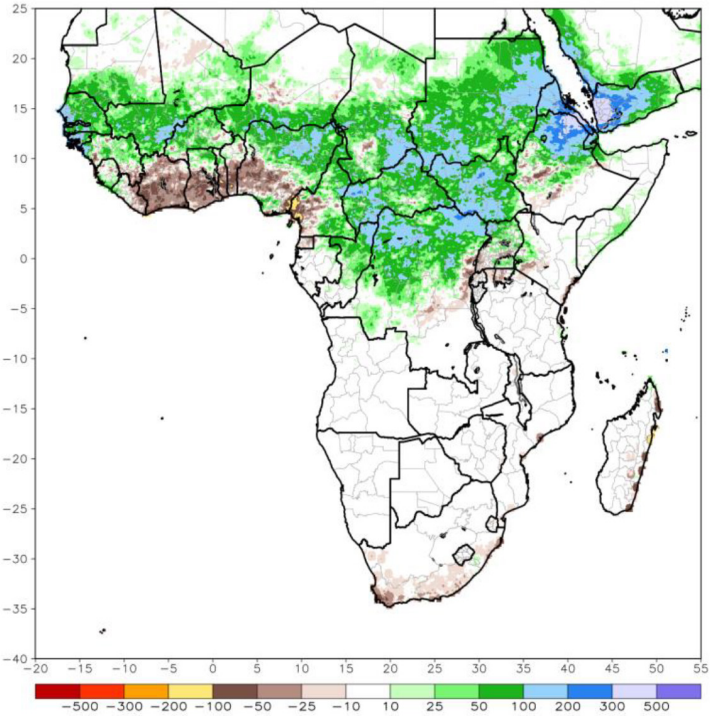
Next week, heavy rainfall is forecast for southern Sudan and most of western Ethiopia. Seasonable rainfall is expected over western South Sudan, Uganda, and Kenya, while heavy rains are again forecast for western Yemen which may trigger additional floods.

Figure 1: RFE 7-Day Total Rainfall (mm)
Valid: July 29- August 4, 2020



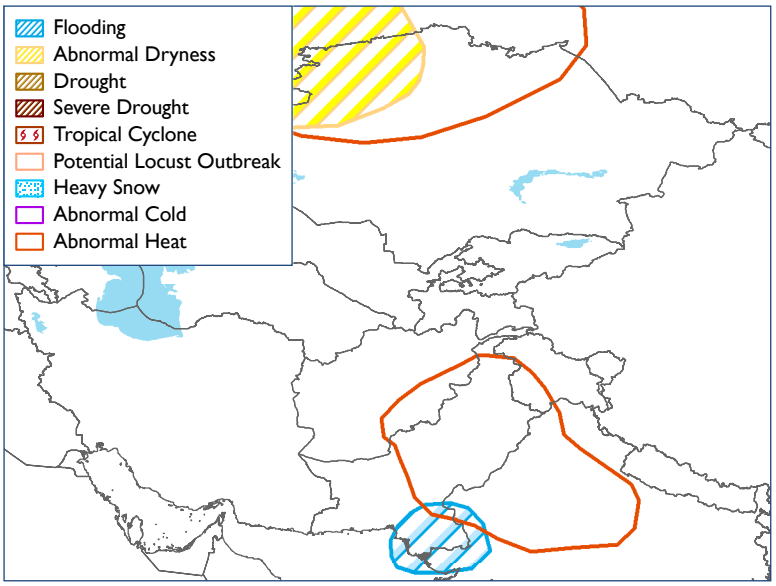
Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 2: ARC 30-day Total Rainfall Anomaly (mm)
Valid: July 06 - August 04, 2020



Source: NOAA/CPC

Central Asia Weather Hazards



Source: *FEWS NET/NOAA*

Temperatures

Above-normal temperatures prevailed across much of the region from last week with the largest positive anomalies in northern Kazakhstan. Maximum temperatures reached 40C as far north as north-central Kazakhstan, while maximum temperatures were near 45C in the lower elevations of Afghanistan, Pakistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Next week, abnormal heat is forecast for northern and central parts of Kazakhstan and parts of Pakistan where maximum temperatures are likely to average more than 4C above normal. Maximum temperatures are expected to reach more than 35C in northern and central areas of Kazakhstan.

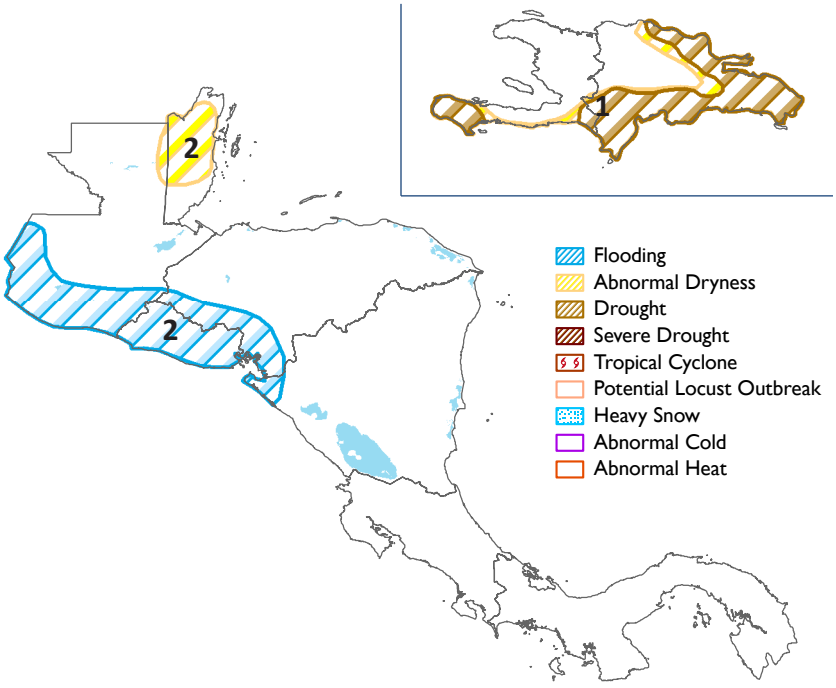
Precipitation

Last week mostly dry weather was recorded in Kazakhstan with rainfall associated with the Indian Monsoon season, limited to parts of southeastern Pakistan. Following 30-day precipitation deficits and high temperatures, abnormal dryness is present in parts of northwestern Kazakhstan. Next week, favorable rainfall is forecast for northwestern Kazakhstan which could help relieve some short-term dryness. Rains associated with the Indian Monsoon are expected to reach Pakistan and increase the risk of flooding.

Central America and the Caribbean Weather Hazards

1. Poorly distributed and below-average rainfall since the start of the rainy season has caused abnormal dryness and drought over large swaths of the region.

2. Poor rainfall during the past 30-days coupled with warm temperatures has resulted in abnormal dryness in Belize. Heavy rainfall over the Pacific-facing countries in the region triggered flooding and landslides.



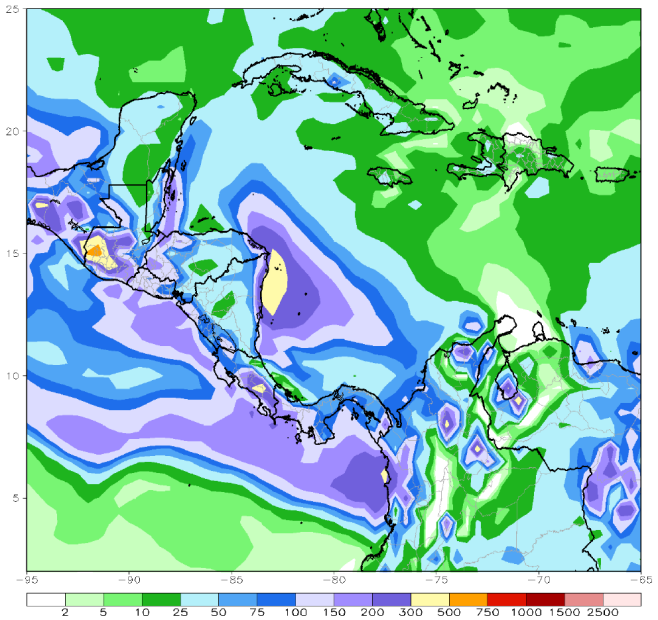
Source: *FEWS NET/NOAA*

Central America and the Caribbean Overview

Additional rainfall next week is likely to trigger flooding across the region

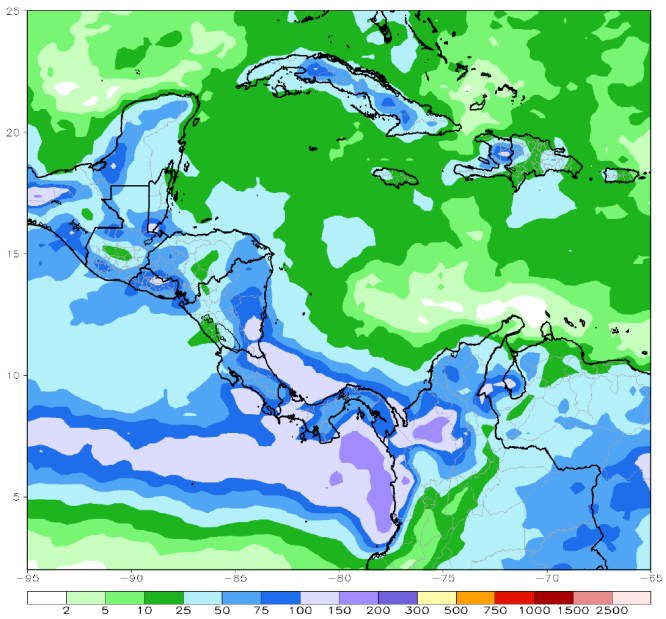
Last week much of Central America received favorable rainfall including much of Guatemala, southern Belize, western El Salvador and Honduras, northern Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean. Meanwhile, light rainfall was recorded over central Honduras and Nicaragua. Over the past 30-days, below-average rainfall was observed across the Caribbean-facing regions of Central America, with the largest rainfall deficits over parts of Belize, the Gulf of Honduras, Atlantic littorals of Honduras; Nicaragua; Costa Rica; and Panama. An abnormal dryness hazard was posted over Belize and parts of Guatemala due to below-average rainfall and higher temperatures, which have already degraded ground conditions. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall over southern Guatemala, El Salvador, the Gulf of Fonseca, and southwestern Nicaragua. As for the May-August rainfall season performance, average to above-average seasonal rainfall was accumulated throughout Central America. Next week torrential rains are forecast over western and southern Guatemala, El Salvador, and western Honduras. The forecast abundant rains could trigger flash flooding and landslides over many local areas and are likely to exacerbate lahars that are associated with the Fuego and Pacaya volcanic activities in Guatemala. Heavy rains are also expected along the Gulf of Honduras and Atlantic Rims of Nicaragua. In contrast, moderate and likely near to below-average rains are forecast over the inland of central Honduras and Nicaragua.

Figure 4: GEFS Mean Total Rainfall Forecast (mm)
Valid: August 12, 2020



Source: NOAA/CPC

Figure 5: CMORPH Rainfall Climatology (mm)
Period: August 04 - 10, 2020



Source: NOAA/CPC

Hurricane Isias brings heavy rainfall to Hispaniola

Last week, Hurricane Isaias made landfall over the northeastern Dominican Republic, which caused storm surges, and flooding. The storm brought heavy rainfall over the eastern Dominican Republic, while heavy rains continued over central parts of Haiti. Light to moderate rainfall was observed elsewhere. Wetter-than-average conditions have prevailed over Hispaniola over the past 30-days. The largest rainfall surpluses were recorded over central Haiti. In contrast, moisture deficits persisted along the southern portions of the Dominican Republic. Over the past ninety days, the coastal areas of northwestern and southwestern Haiti and eastern and southern parts of the Dominican Republic experienced drier-than-average conditions, with seasonal cumulative rainfall accounting for only between 25-80 percent of the average. Next week a return to below-average rainfall is forecast for Hispaniola. While moderate rainfall is possible over localized areas of central and southern Haiti and the central Dominican Republic, light rains are expected elsewhere.

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.