

# S17. THE 2014 DROUGHT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA: ATTRIBUTION OF METEOROLOGICAL DRIVERS

T. R. MARTHEWS, F. E. L. OTTO, D. MITCHELL, S. J. DADSON, AND R. G. JONES

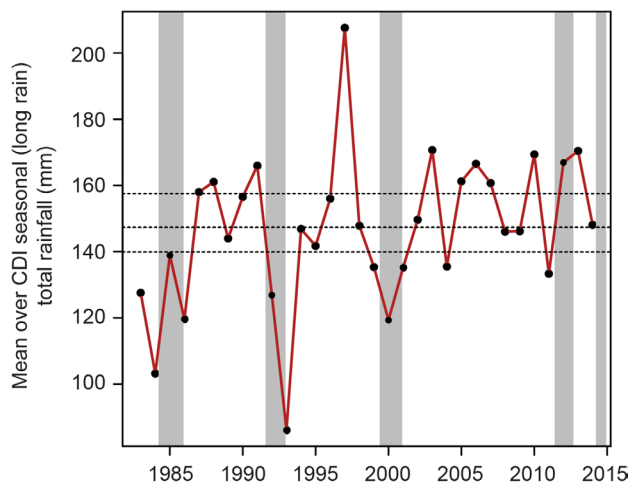
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Although the 2014 drought was not particularly severe in terms of precipitation deficit (Fig. S17.1), it was very severe in terms of locally displaced population and regional aid requirements (FAO 2014; ECHO 2014). As is well-known, precipitation deficit (i.e., climatological drought) is only one aspect of drought (other factors influence whether a climatological

drought initiates a hydrological drought or regional famine, e.g., antecedent environmental conditions, political instability). For example, the 2011 drought reported by Lott et al. (2013) is accepted to have affected some 10 million people across the region which was a similar number to the much more widely-known 1984 Ethiopian drought, and both affected more people than during 1992–93 or 2000 when precipitation deficit was greater. In 2014 some 16 million people are in current need of food aid across the Horn of Africa (ECHO 2014), making this a very serious, extreme event.

## REFERENCES

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**FIG. S17.1. Precipitation in the Centre of Drought Impact (CDI) region from TAMSAT. Recent major regional drought and famine events are highlighted in gray. Broken lines show the long-term mean March–June rainfall total for the CDI (187.2 mm) and the 33% and 67% quantiles.**