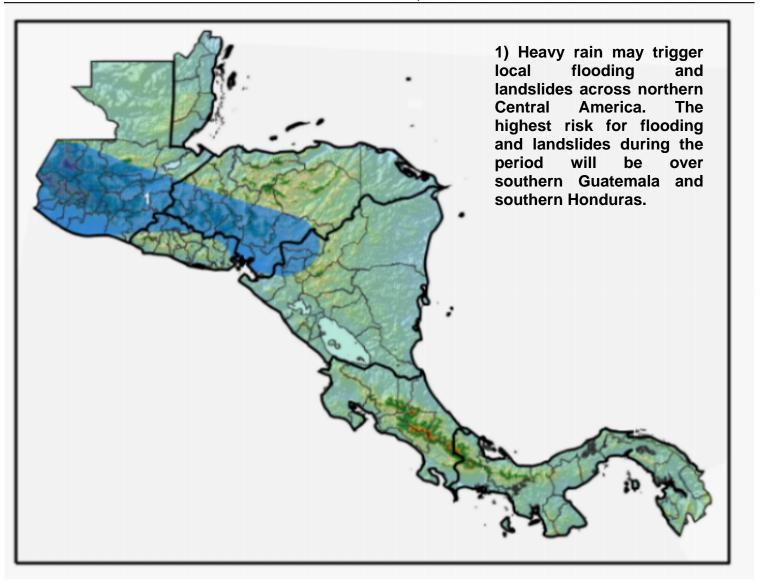


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

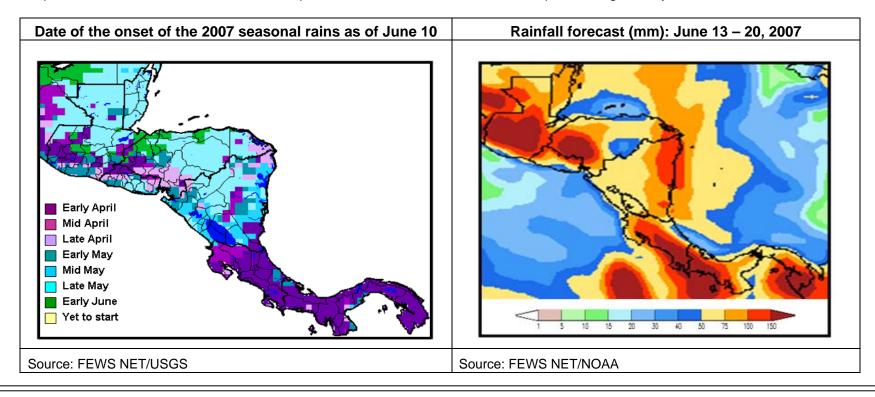
For **June 14 - 20**, **2007**



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

Seasonal rains started across much of Central America during mid and late May, which was generally on time. Onset of seasonal rains was delayed until early June across northwestern portions of Honduras. While this was about 20 days late, impacts will be minimal if rainfall is adequate during the rest of June and July. Rain has been heavy over the past few weeks across Guatemala and portions of Honduras. Rainfall is expected to be abundant to locally excessive across the region during the period. Heavy rains could trigger localized flash floods and landslides across the region. Southern Guatemala, southern Honduras and adjacent parts of El Salvador and Nicaragua have the highest risk for flash floods and landslides due to recent heavy rains and topography.

Concerning La Niña: ENSO-neutral conditions continued in the tropical Pacific during May 2007. Average to below-average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) extended from the date line to the west coast of South America. Oceanic and atmospheric conditions indicate that La Niña conditions could develop over the next 1-3 months. The chances are roughly 50/50 regarding La Niña development. Even if La Niña does not develop, Primera rainfall amounts are still expected to generally be heavier than normal.



The evaluation of climatologic threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of FEWS-NET, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Chet.Schmitt@noaa.gov