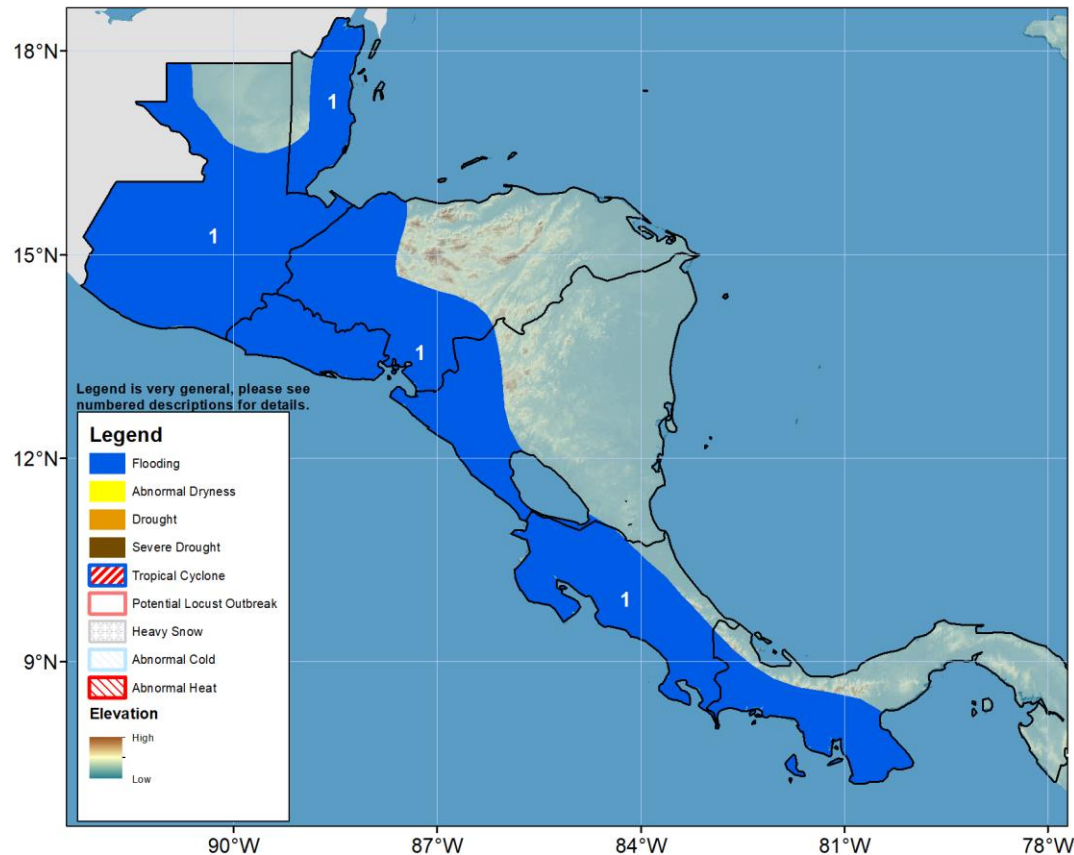


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 1 – 7 September 2022

High risks for flooding and landslides are maintained over Central America as wetter conditions are to continue



1) Following the past few weeks heavy and above-average rain, many localized areas in Central America have been oversaturated, which have caused flooding and landslides. Widespread, heavy downpours are forecast over the Pacific-facing regions during the next week, elevating the risks for flooding and landslides over many local areas in the region.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product takes into account long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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The forecast torrential rain could trigger widespread flooding over many areas in Central America during the next week.

During late August, widespread moderate to heavy rain fell over most parts in Central America. The heaviest amounts were received along the Gulf of Honduras, El Salvador, and southwestern Honduras. Consequently, flooding and landslides have been reported over many local areas in Guatemala, including Gualán, Zacapa, San Lucas, Sacatepéquez, Chichicastenango, Quiché, Chicacao, Suchitepéquez, and Guatemala City. Heavy rain and activities from the Fuego Volcano also exacerbated lahars over the surrounding areas. In El Salvador, urban flooding and landslides have been reported. Over Honduras, green alert has been issued due to high risks for floods. Meanwhile, light rain was registered over northern Guatemala, northeastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, and parts of Costa Rica. The continued enhanced rain has maintained positive thirty-day anomalies over Belize, north-central Guatemala, southwestern Honduras, western El Salvador, and northern Nicaragua. In contrast, negative anomalies have persisted over the remainders of Central America. An analysis of the latest vegetation products has indicated that average to good conditions, overall, prevailed across Central America. Overall, the continuation of seasonal rain should provide ample soil moisture and benefit the *Posrera*, August – November, cropping activities.

For next week, rainfall forecasts suggested that widespread and torrential rain is likely throughout Central America. The forecast wetter weather conditions would exacerbate conditions over many already-flooded and previously-impacted areas. The high moisture content could also trigger new flooding and landslides, lead to overflowing of rivers, and damage infrastructures. Meanwhile, a broad area of low-pressure system, located over the central Tropical Atlantic, is expected to develop into a tropical depression and move to the west-northwest over the next five days.

