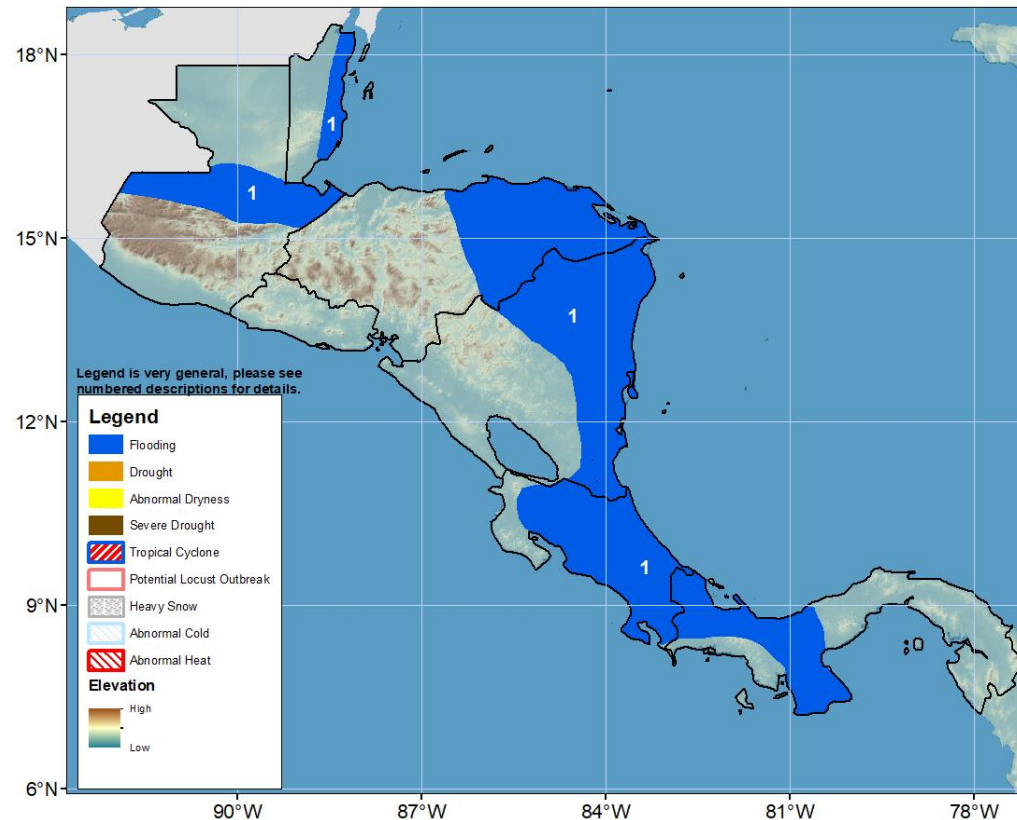


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 17 – 23 November 2022

Risk of flood in central Guatemala, as well as, along coastal areas facing the Caribbean Sea.



- 1) This past week, moderate rain was observed in central and southern Guatemala, western and southern Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, leading to above-rainfall conditions over localized areas. These rainfall patterns have kept soil moisture above the 70th percentile in some regions. Furthermore, heavy downpours are forecasted during the next week in central Guatemala, and along coastal areas facing the Caribbean in Belize, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama, which elevates the risks for flooding across these countries.

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.

Questions or comments about the hazards outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov

Increased rain forecast along coastal areas facing the Caribbean Sea

During the last week, most countries in Central America observed light to moderate rainfall. As a result, normal rainfall conditions prevailed in most parts of Central America, while above-normal rainfall conditions were observed in localized areas in Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama. In these areas, moderate rainfall totals reached 150 mm. Furthermore, the largest thirty-day rainfall surpluses exceeded 50 mm and were recorded over central Guatemala; however, the driest conditions were recorded over southeastern Honduras, northeastern and southern Nicaragua, and central Panama, where rainfall deficits reached 300 mm. For vegetation conditions, the latest products have indicated near to above-average patterns throughout much of Central America; nevertheless, below-average rainfall distribution over the past few weeks in localized areas in northern Guatemala, eastern Nicaragua, central Costa Rica, and northern Panama have led to stressed vegetation conditions.

During the next week, above-average rain conditions are expected in central-northern Guatemala, Belize, southeastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, eastern Costa Rica, and northern Panama, where moderate to heavy downpours is forecast. This heavy rain might trigger flooding and landslide across some of these areas.

