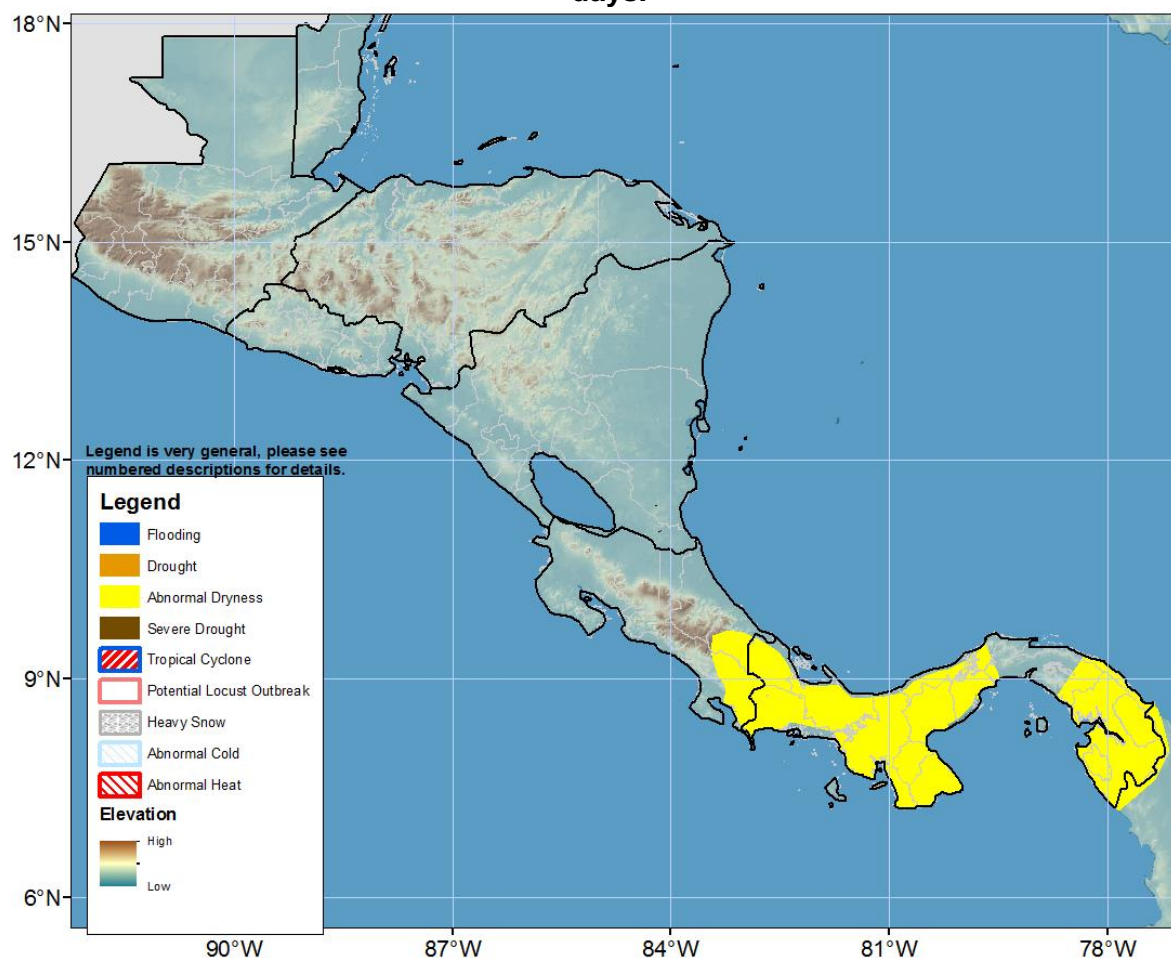


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 04 May – 10 May 2023

An abnormal dryness polygon is placed over southern Costa Rica and parts of Panama due to persistent dryness in the past 30 days.



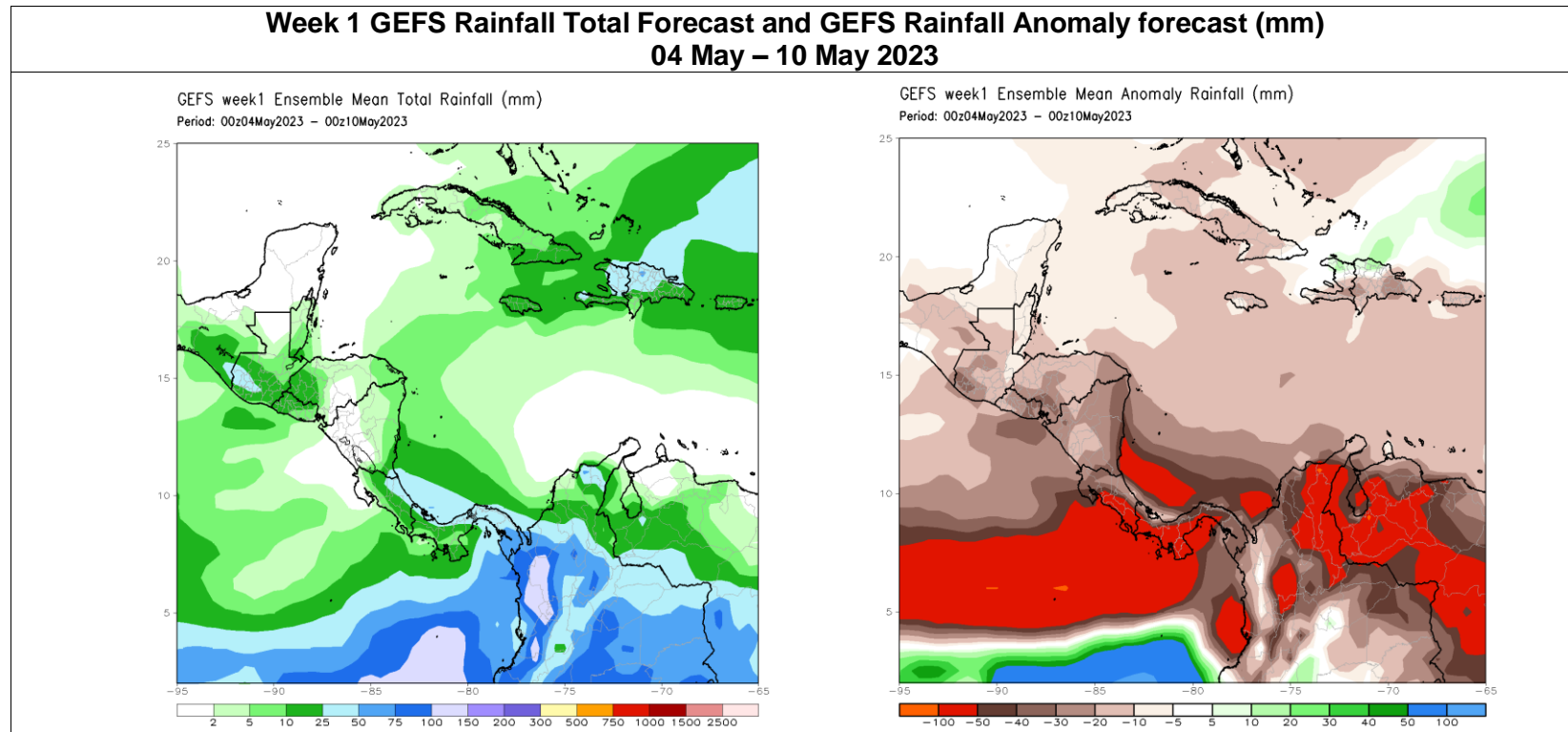
Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous 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](mailto:wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov). Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, [jverd@usaid.gov](mailto:jverd@usaid.gov)

### **An Abnormal Dryness polygon is placed over southern Costa Rica and parts of Panama due to dryness in the past 30 days.**

During the last week, above average rainfall was observed over central Guatemala, southern Belize, northwestern and south-central Honduras, and central Costa Rica. According to CMORPH, south-central Honduras and central Guatemala received heavy rainfall between 50 to 100mm. Except for most of central and eastern Nicaragua, parts of central El Salvador, and eastern Honduras, most places in Central America observed precipitation. The 30-day cumulative rainfall analysis shows dry conditions in southern Costa Rica and most of Panama, with deficits between 50-100 mm throughout much of the region and locally larger deficits >100 mm in far southern Costa Rica and eastern Panama. As a result, an abnormal dry polygon has been kept in place in southern Costa Rica and expanded to include all of Panama outside of the area north of the Bay of Panama. Although the latest analysis indicates near or above average vegetation conditions over much of Central America, vegetation health is relatively poor (yet trending upwards) in northern Honduras and eastern Nicaragua. In addition, minimum temperatures were 4 to 6°C warmer than average over southern Guatemala and western El Salvador and 2 to 4°C cooler than average in southern Nicaragua and northwestern Costa Rica. The maximum temperature magnitudes were not as high; western and eastern Honduras, east-central Guatemala, southern Belize, and northeastern Nicaragua observed maximum temperatures 2 to 4°C above normal.

During the next week, forecasts suggest moderate to heavy rainfall (25-75mm) across southwestern Guatemala, southeastern Nicaragua, eastern Costa Rica, and northern, central, and eastern Panama. However, most of Central America is expected to receive below normal rainfall, especially southern Costa Rica and Panama, which are expected to receive rainfall more than 50mm below normal during the coming week (especially along the Pacific coastline), exacerbating the dry conditions (Fig 1). Maximum temperatures are forecasted to be 2 to 4°C warmer than normal in most areas, especially in western and central Guatemala, western, northern, and eastern Honduras, most of El Salvador, eastern and northwestern Nicaragua, western Costa Rica, and southern and eastern Panama.



**Figure 1: Source NOAA / CPC**