

# The USAID FEWS-NET

## Haiti Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

**August 3 - 9, 2006**

1) Tropical Storm Chris is currently northeast of Saint Thomas, and is moving west-northwest. Chris is expected to strengthen into a hurricane, and pass just north of Hispaniola late on the 3rd and during the 4th of August. Chris is expected to pass close enough to Hispaniola to produce heavy rains and strong winds. Northern portions of Hispaniola are at greatest risk. There is some uncertainty regarding the track of Chris. A more southerly track would bring Chris much closer to or across Hispaniola. This would result in heavier rains and stronger winds. Flooding, landslides and damaging winds are the primary concerns. Please refer to the National Hurricane Center (<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>) for updated forecasts, watches and warnings.

2) Rainfall over the past several months has been lighter than normal across parts of northwestern Haiti. However, recent rains have resulted in some improvement across the region. Satellite data indicate improved vegetation condition in the area. Given the motion of Tropical Storm Chris, prospects for additional rainfall are good.

