

The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

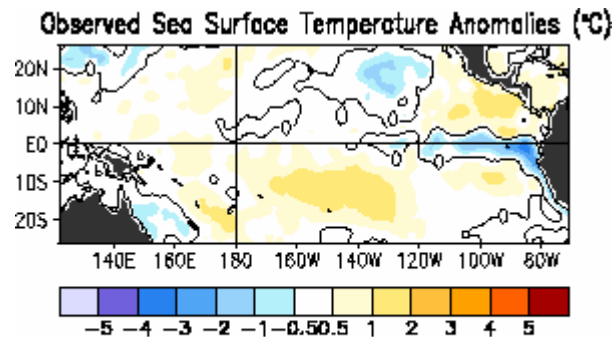
April 19 – 25, 2007



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

Central America remained quiet during the past week with scattered showers throughout the region. The heaviest rainfall occurred primarily in Costa Rica and Panama. Rainfall during the coming week will be similar with scattered showers once again throughout the region.

This precipitation pattern is somewhat early this year and it is likely that this is a false start of season in Central America. It is also likely that the wetter than normal conditions are linked to colder than normal waters off the South American coast, representing the possible start of a weak to moderate La Nina episode. A weak to moderate La Nina will typically enhance rainfall across Central America, as well as enhance tropical cyclone activity.



7-day Average Centered on 11 April 2007

The above image shows recent sea surface temperature anomalies. The cold pool of water has been rapidly spreading westward from the South American coast. This is a typical sign of a possible La Nina.

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