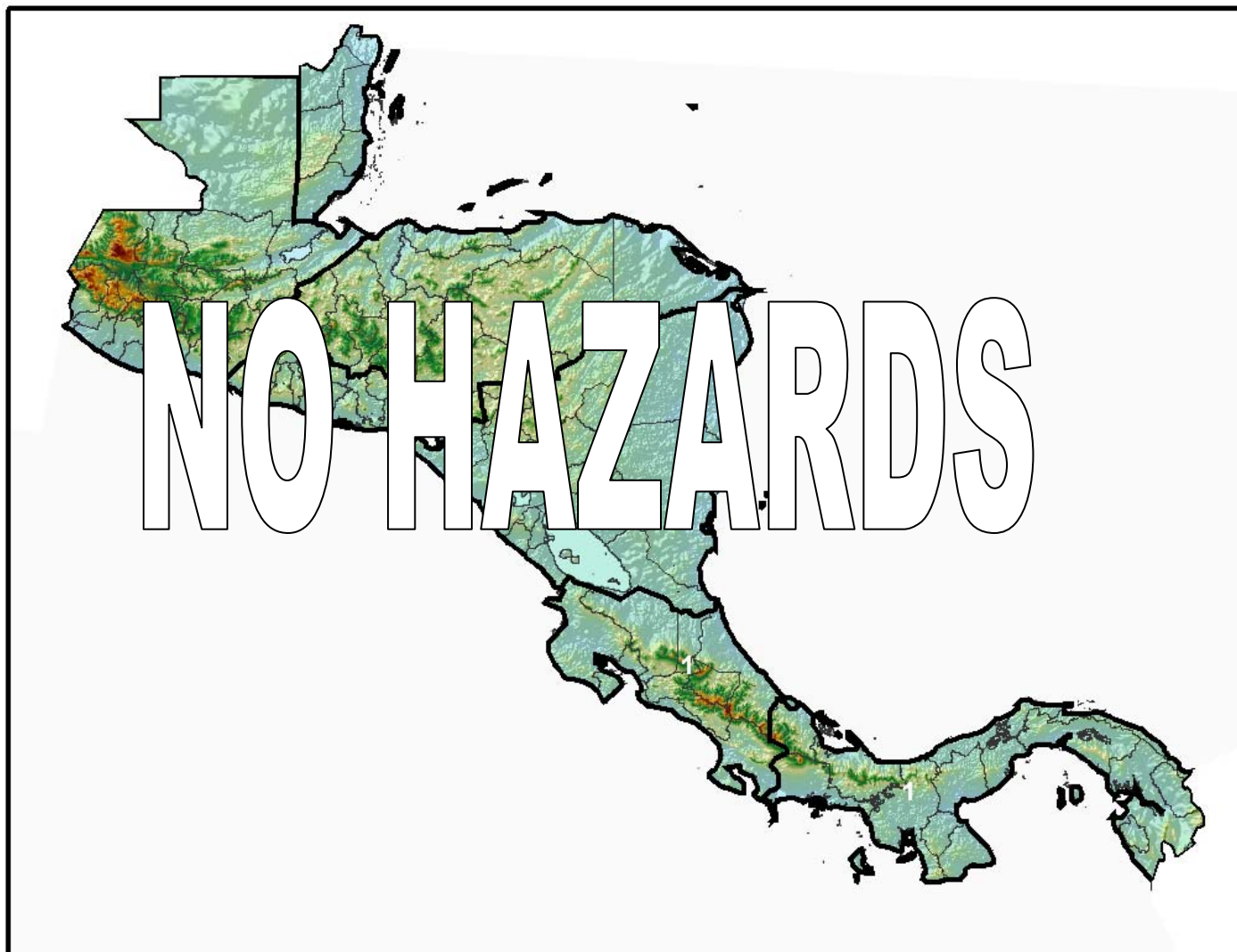


The MFEWS

Central America Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

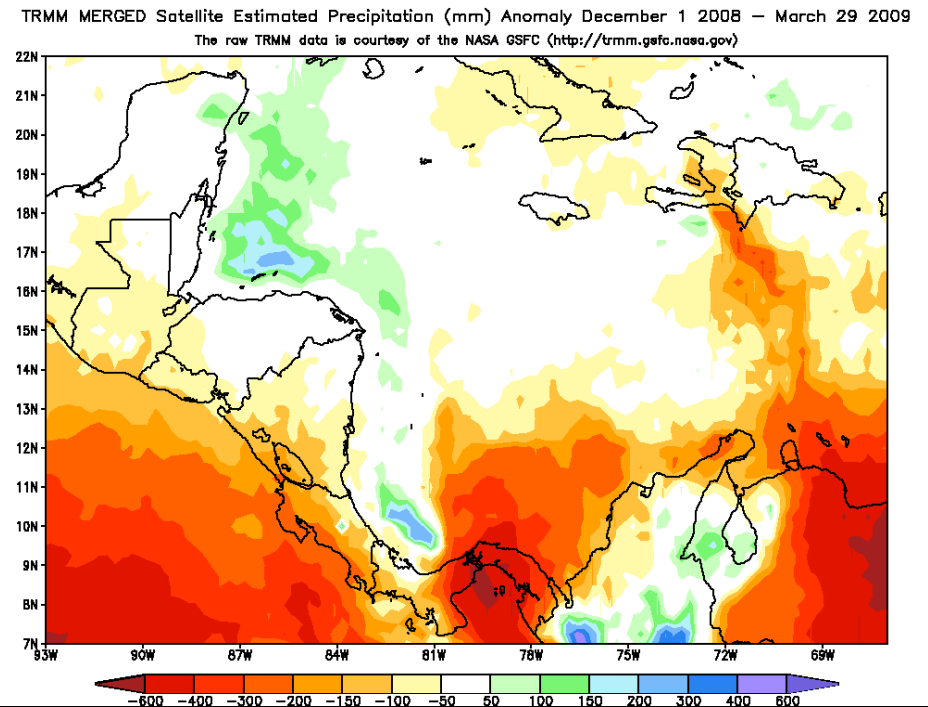
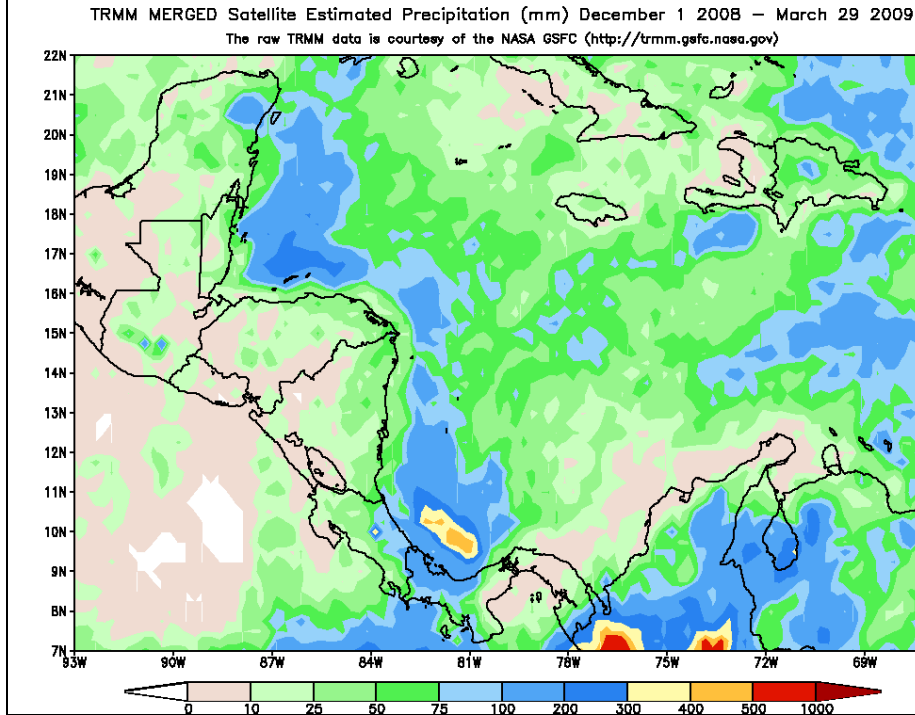
April 2 – 8, 2009



Hazards Assessment Text Explanation:

The Central America Apante season was moderately below average. Areas south of Peten, Guatemala, El Salvador, and western Honduras all experienced rains that were 50 – 100 mm below average. Further south, in Nicaragua as well as into Costa Rica and Panama rainfall totals were more than 150 mm below average. A weak La Nina was declared in January 2009 and “is expected to gradually weaken with increasing chances (greater than 50%) for ENSO-neutral conditions during the Northern Hemisphere Spring” according to NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center. In the 2007 – 2008 La Nina episode Central America experienced little anomalous impact from the phenomenon.

TRMM Apante Season Rainfall Totals and Anomalies Valid: December 1, 2008 – March 29, 2009



The evaluation of climatological threats of MFEWS include the participation of the central and local offices of MFEWS, NOAA-CPC, USGS, NASA, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Any questions or comments on this product can be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov