



The USAID MFEWS Weather
Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America
March 17 – March 23, 2011



- In the last week, an increase in rainfall throughout the Gulf of Honduras region is expected to provide favorable moisture conditions in Belize and in northern parts of Guatemala and Honduras.



Gradually wetter and favorable moisture conditions observed throughout Central America during March.

During the last week, an elongated frontal passage from the Gulf of Mexico resulted in an increase in rainfall throughout the northern portion of Central America. Weekly rainfall accumulations ranging between 20-40mm were received for many coastal departments along the Gulf of Honduras region, with locally higher totals (>40mm) observed in parts of northern Guatemala and Honduras. Along the Pacific, some local areas in the Gulf of Fonseca region saw the first substantial amount of weekly precipitation since the beginning of January. Further south, weekly rainfall was generally less, with the highest accumulations (20-40mm) observed in Costa Rica, and eastern Nicaragua. Over the last 30 days, precipitation has been favorably above-average throughout Central America, with the greatest moisture surpluses (20-100mm) concentrated along the Atlantic coastline.

Precipitation forecast suggest a continuation of moderate rainfall throughout Central America, with the highest probability for enhanced rains over the Gulf of Honduras region, and in eastern Honduras and Nicaragua. Weekly rainfall totals ranging between 15-40mm, with locally heavier totals exceeding 60mm may be expected for these areas.

