



# The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America March 24 – March 30, 2011



- Increased amounts of rainfall observed further inland in the last seven days across portions of Central America.



## Average to above-average moisture conditions expected to persist into April.

Light to moderate amounts of precipitation were received across many local areas of Central America during the last week. Compared to the distribution of rainfall observed along the Atlantic coastline since the beginning of March, rainfall was observed further inland across central Honduras, El Salvador and along the Pacific departments of southern Guatemala in the last seven days. The onset of rainfall in these areas marks the first recorded precipitation amounts in last several weeks, and is expected to help revitalize ground conditions for the planting of Primera crops during the next several weeks. Despite a relatively dry start to the Apante season in Central America, precipitation has ranged between average to above-average during the last 30 days, with the highest moisture surpluses located along the Atlantic coastlines of Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. Many of these areas have experienced approximately 125 to 200 percent of their normal rainfall accumulation since the middle of February.

Precipitation forecasts suggest a continuation of favorable rainfall across Central America. Light to moderate amounts are expected in central portions of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, with higher amounts (>30mm) along the Atlantic coastlines of Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama during the next seven days.

