



The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America
March 31 – April 6, 2011



- Reduced rains observed for many inland areas Central America during the last week.



Despite dryness observed during the end of March, many areas still experiencing above-average moisture conditions.

Light to fair amounts of precipitation were received across many local areas of Central America during the last week. The highest weekly rainfall (30-50mm) was observed offshore of Costa Rica and Panama, while many areas inland saw no more than 15mm during the last week. Despite the suppression of rainfall observed during the last seven days, 30-day moisture surpluses remain for a number of local areas in Central America. Since the beginning of March, favorable rainfall surpluses (20-75mm) are still evident in parts of northern Guatemala, southern Honduras, and Costa Rica, with near-neutral conditions observed elsewhere in Central America. The anomalous increase in rains and moisture during March followed several periods of moderate Apante dryness in January and February.

Precipitation forecasts suggest a continuation of light to moderate rainfall during the next week. The potential for the heaviest rains remain in the southern Caribbean, with the possibility of locally high rainfall (30-50mm) in northern Guatemala and southwestern Honduras in the next seven days.

