



The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America April 28 – May 4, 2011



- Moderate to heavy rain affected portions of northern Guatemala and western Honduras during the past week.



An increase in rainfall was observed across northern Central America during the past seven days.

During the past week, an increase in rainfall was observed across northern Central America. Moderate rain (10-40 mm) was recorded across central and northern Guatemala, southern Belize and western Honduras. The highest rainfall totals (> 50 mm) were located over localized areas in southern Belize and western Honduras. The increase in rainfall followed several weeks of slightly drier-than-average conditions and could mark the beginning of the wetter Primera season across northern Central America. The rains generally have helped improve moisture conditions across Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. Further south, dry conditions and slightly below-average rainfall was observed across Nicaragua, while light to moderate rain (10-40 mm) was recorded in Costa Rica and Panama. The heaviest rain (> 50 mm) fell over localized areas in eastern Panama at the end of the observation period. Weekly rainfall, though, was still below-average over most of Costa Rica and western Panama.

For the next week, models forecast moderate rain across much of Central America. Across northern Central America, moderate rain (10-30 mm) is expected for a second consecutive week with the majority of the rain falling during the beginning of the observation period. Further south, moderate rain (10-30 mm) is probable over Nicaragua while heavy rainfall (> 40mm) is forecast across much of Panama and Costa Rica. The abundant rain across the southern Caribbean marks a return to wetter conditions after two weeks of below-average rainfall.

