



## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET May 3 – May 9, 2012

- A small decrease in precipitation was observed across Central America.



## Favorably wet conditions observed throughout Central America.

During the last observation period, a small decrease of Primera season precipitation was observed throughout Central America. Throughout many areas in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, weekly precipitation amounts were fair, generally ranging between 10-40mm. The highest weekly precipitation totals (>100mm) were observed offshore throughout much of the Caribbean, with higher than average rainfall totals received along the Atlantic coastlines of Costa Rica and Panama during the last seven days. During the month of April, rainfall has largely remained above-average for many local areas in Central America. The highest month-to-date rainfall surpluses have been experienced over the Gulf of Fonseca region (50-100mm), affecting portions of El Salvador, southern Honduras, and northwestern Nicaragua. Elsewhere, wetter than average conditions have been more moderate, which is expected to provide favorable ground moisture for the planting of Primera crops.

For the upcoming outlook period, the atmospheric circulation and rainfall distribution across the Caribbean and Central America is expected become more seasonable. Prevailing easterlies are expected to enhance precipitation totals along the southern Caribbean, as well as, for areas further inland across Costa Rica, Panama, and the Gulf of Fonseca region. The highest weekly precipitation amounts (>50mm) are forecast for these areas, with locally heavier totals which may possibly trigger flooding in southern Honduras during the next seven days. More moderate totals are expected throughout Guatemala and Honduras.

