



## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET July 5 – July 11, 2012

- Northern Central America has continued to receive moderate to locally heavy rainfall during the past seven days.



## Above-average rainfall observed over Guatemala.

Following torrential rains during the previous weeks, northern Central America, particularly Guatemala has continued to observe heavy (> 50 mm) rains during the last seven days. This has increased rainfall surpluses that were accumulated over much of Guatemala and northern Honduras throughout June. The heaviest (> 100 mm) rains were recorded across the Quiché, Alta Verapaz, Suchitepéquez, and Sololá departments of Guatemala, and the Cortés department of Honduras. The high rainfall amounts have led to the overflowing of the Boquita and María Tecún River of Suchitepéquez and Sololá, respectively. Heavy, coastal showers also fell along the Pacific Basin of Costa Rica, helping to reduce thirty-day negative rainfall anomalies in the region. Conversely, little (< 10 mm) rainfall fell across central Honduras and north-central Nicaragua and has contributed to sustain drier than average conditions across the inland of Central America over the past thirty days.

For next week, the passage of tropical waves and intensification of a high pressure over the Atlantic are expected to enhance rainfall in the Gulf of Honduras, Gracias a Dios department of Honduras, Atlantic coasts of Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Heavy showers and thunderstorms are also forecasted over local areas of southern Guatemala, western Honduras, and the southern Caribbean. Meanwhile, light (< 20 mm) rains are expected in the northern region of Guatemala and inland of eastern Honduras. The forecasted reduction in rainfall in the Petén department of Guatemala is expected to erode rainfall surpluses accumulated over the past several weeks and help to lower the risk for flooding in the region.

