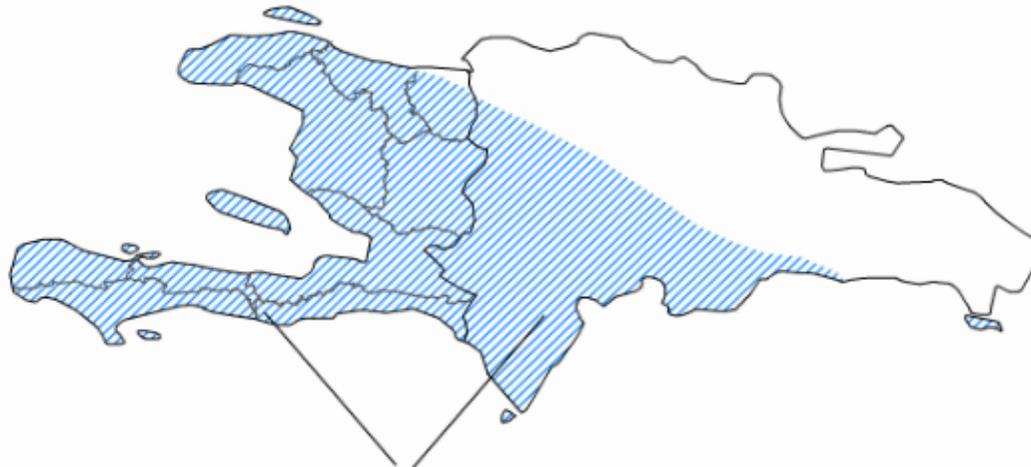


The USAID FEWS-NET

Haiti Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

August 31 – September 6, 2006

Tropical Storm Ernesto briefly strengthened into a hurricane as it passed just off of the southwestern coast of Haiti on Sunday, August 27. Satellite rainfall estimates and surface observations indicate that 100 to 200+ mm of rain fell across Haiti and southwestern sections of the Dominican Republic. Tropical storm force winds were observed over southwestern portions of Haiti. Ernesto triggered floods and landslides in these areas. According to an AP report, Ernesto damaged homes and banana crops in Haiti. A bridge linking the southern peninsula with the capital, Port-au-Prince, was also washed out. In the Dominican Republic, the agriculture secretary said the heavy rains along the country's southern coast were beneficial to crops. Seasonal showers are expected across Hispaniola during the period. These rains may hamper clean up efforts at times in some locations.



Hurricane Ernesto produced strong winds and heavy rains across this region on Sunday, August 27.