

Haiti Weather Hazards and Benefits Assessment

For

September 4 – September 10, 2008



During the last observation period, Hurricane “Gustav” produced very significant rainfall over much of Hispaniola. In the central and northern departments near the D.R. border, rainfall amounts in excess of 200 mm, with higher totals (locally > 400 mm) were observed along the southern coastline where Gustav made landfall. Excessive rainfall and high wind gusts resulted in localized flooding and landslides across much of Haiti. Acute losses in crops and livestock, as well as numerous destroyed homes and fatalities were reported over the past week. Precipitation forecasts show increased chances for significant rainfall over the next seven days due to an active tropical pattern over the Atlantic. Rainfall from Tropical Storm “Hanna” has already produced additional rainfall totals exceeding 125 mm along the northern and southern coasts of Haiti. Many of these areas are currently experiencing dangerous rising water levels and landslides, as additional damages to crops and infrastructure may be expected over next seven days.