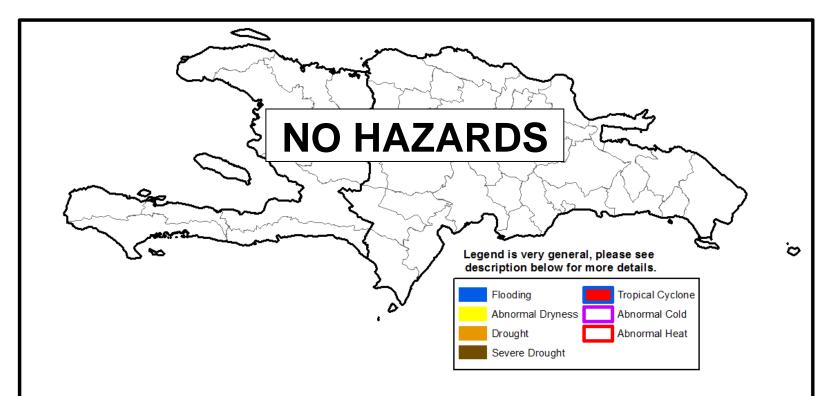


Climate Prediction Center's Hispaniola Hazards Outlook December 31, 2015 – January 6, 2016

Reduced rainfall expected over Haiti during late December.



In late December, the onset of locally heavy rainfall across northwestern Haiti led to floods, damaged crops and livestock according to ground reports. Elsewhere, more seasonable rainfall accumulations ranging between (5-20mm) were received across central Haiti and eastern Dominican Republic, with little no rains received along the southern Haiti coastline during the last week. Over the last 30 days, nearly all of Hispaniola has experienced average to above-average rainfall, with the highest moisture surpluses concentrated (>100mm) throughout the southern Haiti peninsula. The excess moisture from early December is expected to provide relief for many anomalously dry areas due to poor rains earlier in the summer and spring seasons. Remotely sensed vegetation indices continue to show improving ground conditions since the beginning of December, with more notable improvement in northwestern Haiti. However, well below average vegetation health conditions still remain in northwestern Dominican Republic, where the enhanced December rainfall has not been as abundant. During the upcoming outlook period, a suppression of seasonal rains are forecast for much of Haiti, as more moderate to locally heavy precipitation is expected further east over eastern and southern the Dominican Republic according to models.