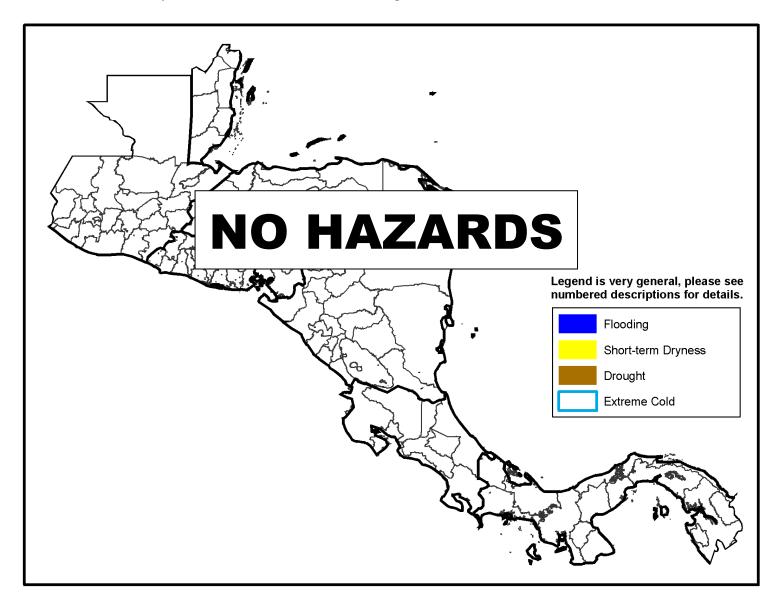


## The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America March 31 – April 6, 2011



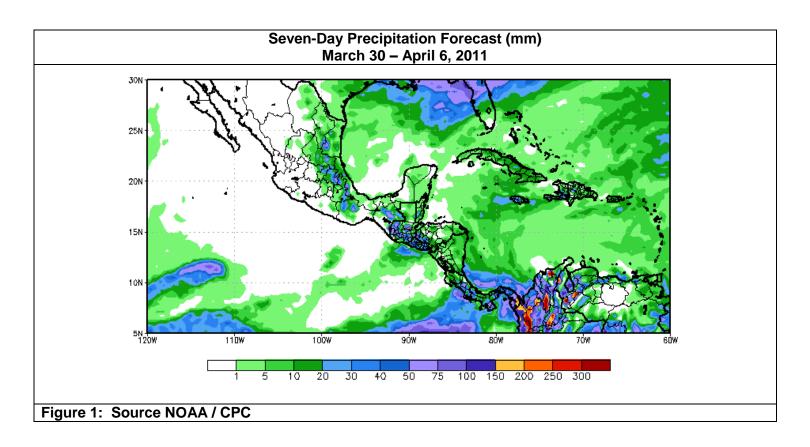
• Reduced rains observed for many inland areas Central America during the last week.



## Despite dryness observed during the end of March, many areas still experiencing above-average moisture conditions.

Light to fair amounts of precipitation were received across many local areas of Central America during the last week. The highest weekly rainfall (30-50mm) was observed offshore of Costa Rica and Panama, while many areas inland saw no more than 15mm during the last week. Despite the suppression of rainfall observed during the last seven days, 30-day moisture surpluses remain for a number of local areas in Central America. Since the beginning of March, favorable rainfall surpluses (20-75mm) are still evident in parts of northern Guatemala, southern Honduras, and Costa Rica, with near-neutral conditions observed elsewhere in Central America. The anomalous increase in rains and moisture during March followed several periods of moderate Apante dryness in January and February.

Precipitation forecasts suggest a continuation of light to moderate rainfall during the next week. The potential for the heaviest rains remain in the southern Caribbean, with the possibility of locally high rainfall (30-50mm) in northern Guatemala and southwestern Honduras in the next seven days.



MFEWS is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The MFEWS weather hazards assessment process and products include participation by MFEWS field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries such as, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila. Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-763-8000 x7566. Questions about the USAID MFEWS activity may be directed to Gary Eilerts, USAID Program Manager for MFEWS, 1-202-219-0500 or geilerts@usaid.gov.