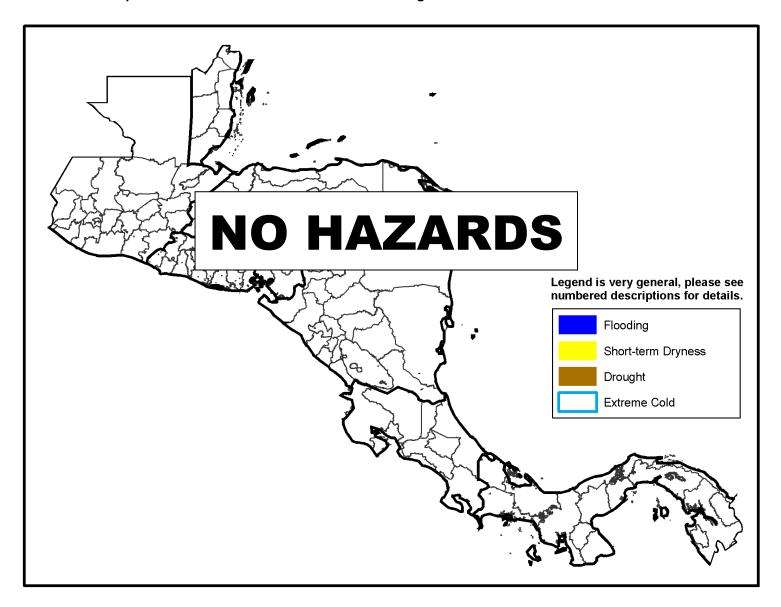


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America April 21 – April 27, 2011



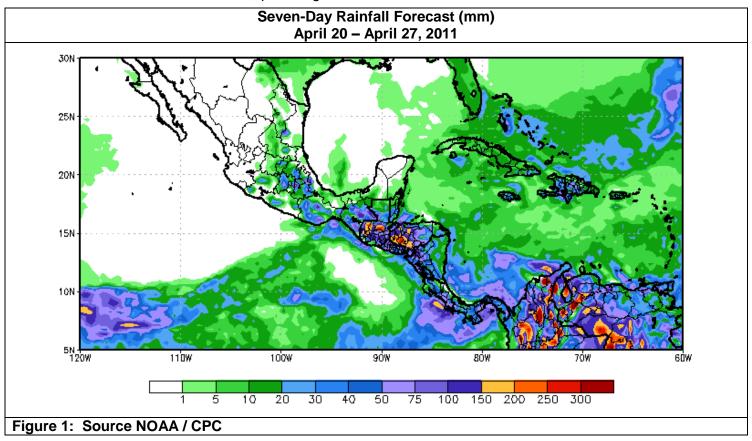
• An increase in rainfall is expected across northern Central America during the next week.



An increase in rainfall across Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras is expected during the next seven days.

During the past week, light rainfall totals (5-20 mm) were observed across Central America including recently saturated areas in the southern Caribbean. The heaviest rain (10-30 mm) fell across eastern Panama. The reduction in rainfall across southern Central America, especially Panama, has provided some relief to the saturated conditions that exist due to the above-average rain received in the previous three weeks. Meanwhile, the rains across northern Central America continued to be seasonally light. However, even though rain is expected to be light during the Apante season, fair to moderate negative thirty-day rainfall anomalies (20-50 mm) have developed across local areas in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. These dry conditions have aided in the spread wildfires during the beginning of April throughout parts of northern Guatemala and eastern Honduras.

An increase in rainfall is forecast for the next week across drier portions of northern Central America including Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. The moderate to heavy rain (> 30 mm) expected would help to erode negative thirty-day rainfall anomalies that have developed since late March, improve moisture conditions for cropping activities and help contain the spread of wild fires. Further south, moderate amounts of rain (10-40 mm) are forecast over much of the southern Caribbean, providing some relief for a second week to saturated areas in Panama.



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.