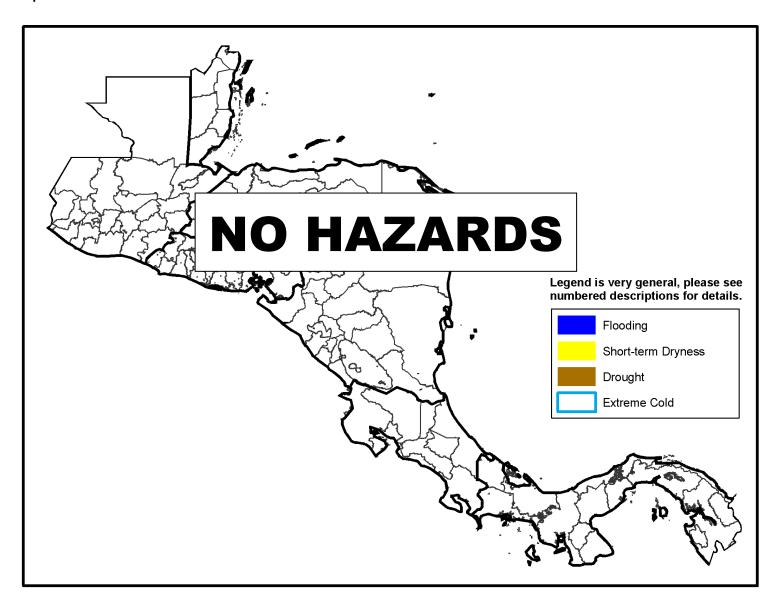


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America May 19 – May 25, 2011



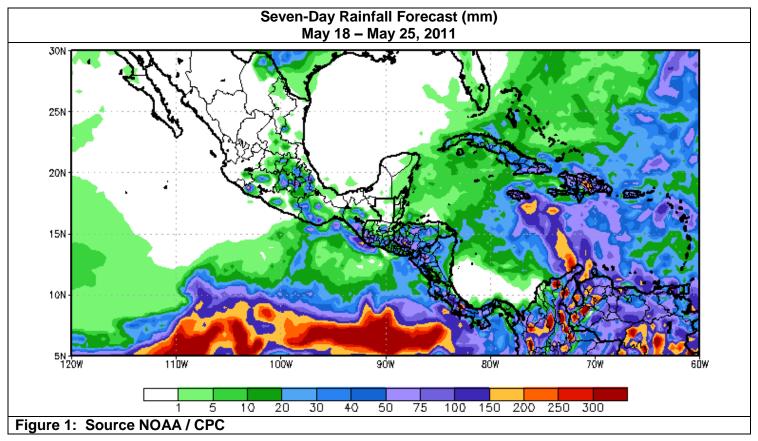
 After a one-week hiatus, the return of favorable seasonal rainfall was observed across much of Central America during the past observation period.



The return of favorable seasonal rainfall was observed across Central America during the last week.

After a reduction of rainfall was observed during the previous week, moderate to heavy (30-50mm) rains fell across many areas of inland Central America during the last seven days, announcing the return of favorable seasonal rainfall in the region. Favorable seasonal rainfall was observed along the Pacific side of Central America. In Guatemala, much of the country received moderate to heavy weekly totals, with the heaviest (> 100mm) rainfall observed over the Petén and Retalhuleu departments in northern and southwestern portions of the country. Abundant (> 100mm) rains were also observed in the Gulf of Fonseca region. The return of favorable rainfall observed during the last seven days helped to erode the dryness associated with the dry spell Central America experienced during the previous week.

For the upcoming seven days, moderate to heavy (30-50mm) rains are expected in many local areas along the Pacific basin of inland Central America. While light to no (< 10mm) rains are expected in the Petén department in the north, fair (30-50mm) amounts of rain are expected in southwestern Guatemala. Heavy (> 50mm) rains are also expected in southern Honduras, to the north of the lake Managua and Nicaragua, and in the Gulf of Dulce region. The continuation of rains is likely to aid land preparation, planting, and other cropping activities during this time of the year for many countries in Central America.



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.