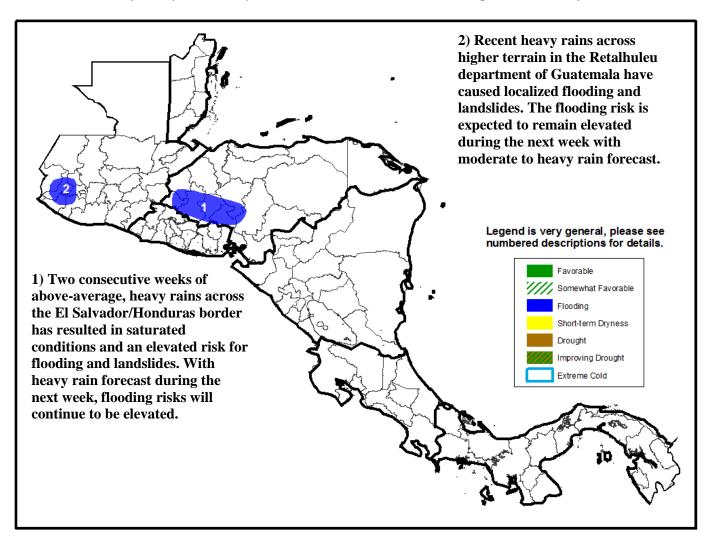






Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET May 31 – June 6, 2012

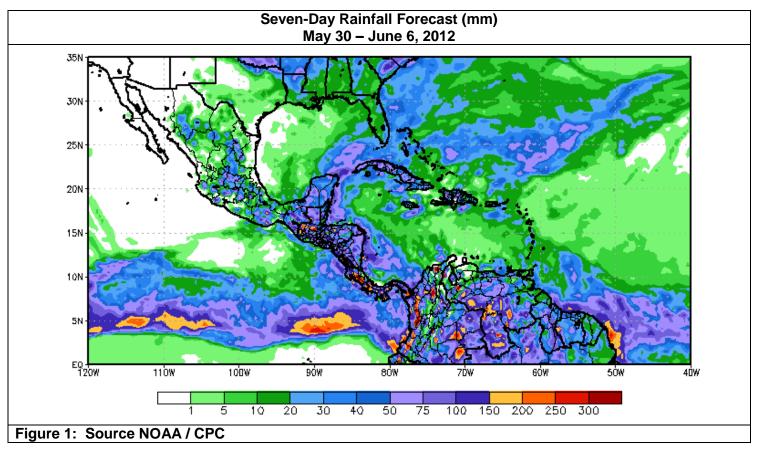
• A second week of anomalously heavy rainfall impacts much of Central America during the end of May.



Torrential rains are observed across eastern Honduras and the El Salvador/Honduras border.

During the past week, torrential rains were recorded across much of northern Central America for a second consecutive week. The highest precipitation totals (>100mm) were observed in northeastern Honduras and along the El Salvador/Honduras border. These anomalous rains likely caused localized flash flooding. Elsewhere, moderate rains (10-50mm) were received in Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. The recent above-average rains have led to 30 day rainfall surpluses across much of Central America. The largest positive anomalies (>150% of normal, >100mm total) are located over northeastern Honduras, El Salvador and the Gulf of Fonseca region. Flooding risks remain elevated in these regions. In contrast, coastal areas along the Caribbean in Costa Rica have observed below-average rainfall throughout May.

For the upcoming seven days, rains are expected to remain moderate to locally heavy (>30mm) across much of Central America including saturated areas around the Gulf of Fonseca, the El Salvador/Honduras border and northern Honduras. Abundant rains could cause localized flash flooding and mudslides across higher terrain. Locally heavy rains across southwestern Guatemala including the Retalhuleu department also could cause flooding and landslides. Elsewhere, precipitation totals ranging from 10-40mm are expected across Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Panama while higher totals are forecast across Costa Rica, potentially reducing 30 day and seasonal rainfall deficits.



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 outlook 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.