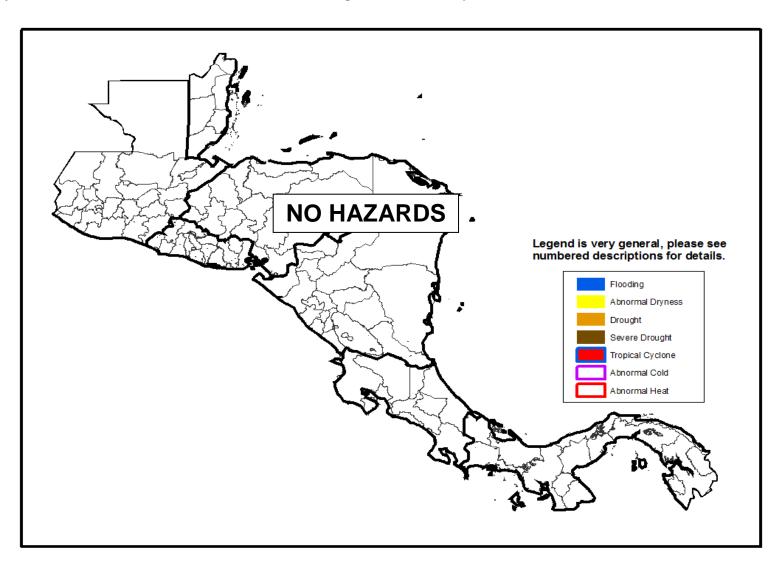






Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET May 2 – May 8, 2013

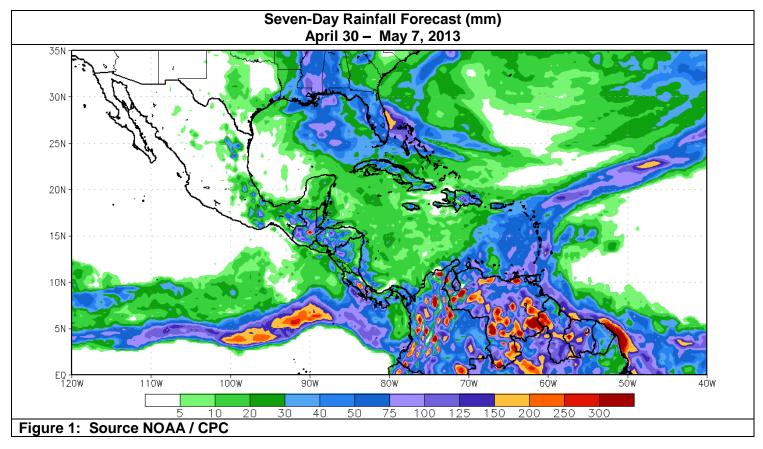
• Heavy rain forecast across northern Central America during the next outlook period.



Heavy showers expected throughout northern Central America.

In general, Central America received an average to below-average rainfall during the past seven days. With the exception of the southwestern parts and Pacific coasts of Guatemala and eastern El Salvador, where moderate to heavy rain was observed, little to no rainfall was recorded throughout much of Central America. Since late March, rainfall has been sporadic across much of the interior of the region, resulting in increasing (> 50 mm) rainfall deficits over many areas, particularly the south-central and eastern portions of Guatemala, parts of western El Salvador, and western Honduras. Meanwhile, the lack of rain over the past several weeks has continued to favor the spread and incidence of forest fires over many local areas. An adequate rainfall distribution is needed over the upcoming few weeks to eliminate existing rainfall deficits and provide favorable moisture conditions for cropping activities during the *Primera*, May – August, season.

During the next outlook period, model rainfall forecasts indicate widespread, heavy rain across northern Central America, with abundant (> 75 mm) rain in southern Guatemala, the western half of Honduras, and northwestern Nicaragua. Light rain is expected over eastern Honduras, El Salvador, and much of Nicaragua. In the southern Caribbean, the central and Pacific regions of Costa Rica could receive heavy showers, while Panama is forecast to experience light to moderate rainfall. If the forecast increase in rainfall materializes, it could benefit land preparation and sowing over many local areas of 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 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 1-301-683-3424. 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.