



Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook 10 – 16 February 2022

Abnormal cold weather could continue in western Guatemala due to the forecast intrusion of northerly air mass.



1) Below-average minimum temperature is expected over Central America during the outlook period. The forecast weather pattern is likely to maintain an abnormal cold weather with near or below-freezing night time or early morning temperatures, potentially resulting in frost over the higher elevations in western Guatemala.

Increased rain expected over northern Guatemala and the Gulf of Honduras during the outlook period

During the past seven days, dry conditions with suppressed rainfall prevailed over Central America. This past thirty days, cumulative rainfall was near-average throughout the region. However, rainfall was above-average over localized areas in southwestern and eastern Guatemala, southern Belize, and parts of northern Honduras. In contrast, rainfall was below-average over parts of eastern Nicaragua, eastern Costa Rica, and eastern Panama. Meanwhile, vegetation conditions overall improved over Central America despite residual poor conditions, associated with the previous below-average growing season, over localized areas, according to the latest Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) products. Also, over Guatemala, the eruption of the Fuego and Santiaguito Volcanoes disperses volcanic ashes to the west and south west, impacting adjacent crops.

During the outlook period, wetter-than-average conditions are forecast over northern Guatemala and along the Gulf of Honduras, where moderate to locally heavy rains are expected. Light to moderate rains and likely near to above-average amounts are expected along the Atlantic tier of Honduras, Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean. For temperatures, minimum temperature is expected to fall below-average over northern Central America. The forecast below-average low temperature could result in abnormal cold weather with near or below freezing night time or early morning temperature, potentially leading to frost over the elevated terrains in western Guatemala.

