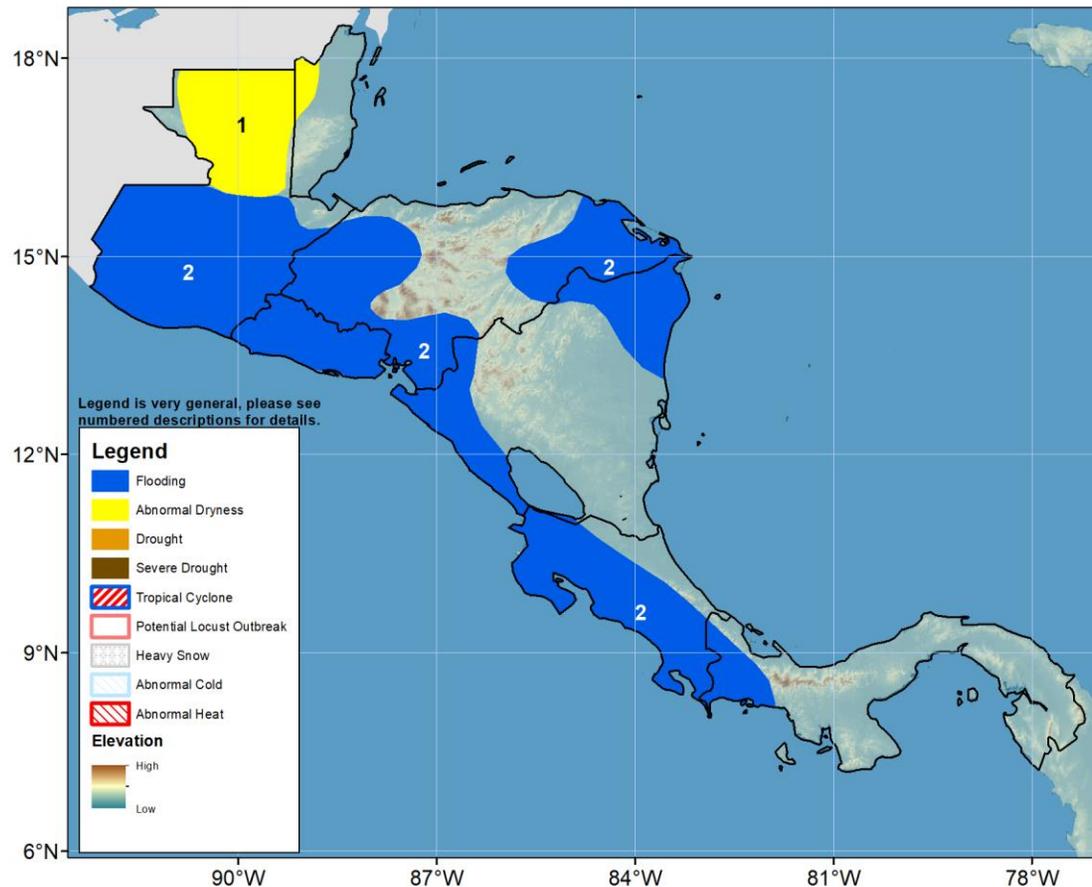


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 2 – 8 June 2022

**Flash flood and landslides threaten many areas of Central America as heavy downpours are expected to continue.**



- 1) A delayed onset to the seasonal rain since April has strengthened rainfall deficits, resulting in abnormal dryness over northern Guatemala and parts of Belize.
- 2) Heavy and above-average rain over the past few weeks has led to ground oversaturation, which has resulted in flooding and landslides with many infrastructure damages, fatalities, and many people affected over many areas of Central America.

**Note:** The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product takes into account long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET 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 FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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**The current wetness and forecast abundant rains maintain high potentials for flooding and landslides over many areas.**

Northern Central America received abundant weekly rainfall totals during late May. Torrential (> 100 mm) rains fell over western, north-central, and eastern Guatemala, western Honduras, and the Gulf of Fonseca. Over Guatemala, reports indicated that the subsequent flooding and landslides have caused fatalities and many people affected over the Huehuetenango and Alta Verapaz Departments. Reports also indicated that flooding has affected the Santa Barbara Department in western Honduras. An analysis of this past thirty-day total rainfall has showed that wetter-than-average conditions, now, dominated over much of Central America. Rainfall surpluses ranged between 50 – 200 mm across north-central Guatemala, the Gulf of Honduras, much of Honduras, northern Nicaragua, and much of Costa Rica and Panama. The current level of ground oversaturation was such that any additional moisture will likely trigger flash flood over many areas. In contrast, drier-than-average conditions persisted over northern Guatemala and portions of northern Belize due to a continued poor rainfall distribution since April. Thirty-day rainfall deficits were now entrenched, with a moisture gap ranging between 50 – 100 mm below average.

For next week, heavy and above-average rain is likely to continue over Central America, according to model rainfall forecasts. Widespread, heavy rains are expected throughout Guatemala, Honduras, the Pacific-third of the region, and the southern Caribbean. This forecast wet weather pattern, therefore, maintains high risks for flooding and landslides over many local areas. Meanwhile, near to below-average maximum temperature is forecast over Guatemala and along the Pacific-Rim of Central America. In contrast, above-average maximum temperature is expected over eastern Honduras and eastern Nicaragua, where high temperature could average 1 – 4 degrees Celsius above average.

