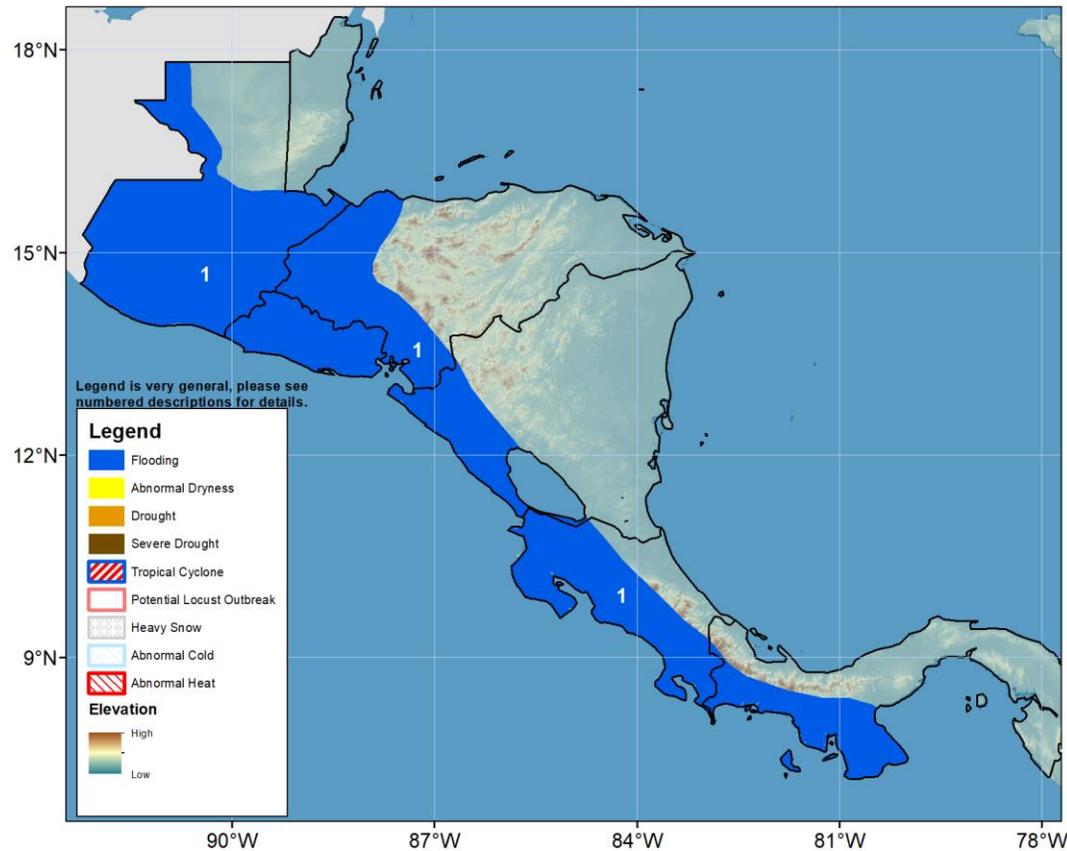


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 25 – 31 August 2022

Torrential rains are forecast over the Pacific-facing regions of Central America, increasing the risks for flooding.



1) Following the past few weeks heavy and above-average rain, many localized areas in Central America have been oversaturated, which have caused flooding. Widespread, heavy downpours are forecast over the Pacific-facing regions during the next week, elevating the risks for flooding and landslides over many local areas in the region.

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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A return of wetter-than-average conditions is expected over Central America during the next week.

During the past seven days, heavy rain was observed over many localized areas in Central America. Those areas included eastern Belize, western Guatemala, El Salvador, western Honduras, northern Nicaragua, and the Pacific coastlines of Costa Rica and Panama. As a result, flooding and landslides have been reported over many local areas in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. Meanwhile, light to locally moderate rain was registered elsewhere. Cumulative rainfall over the past thirty days has indicated that above-average rainfall has been received over parts of central Guatemala, the western portions of Honduras and El Salvador, and central Nicaragua, whereas near to below-average rainfall has been registered elsewhere. For the *Primera*, May – August, rainfall season, near to above-average seasonal rainfall has been recorded across the interior of Central America. Below-average seasonal rainfall has, however, been received over the remainders of the region, including northern and southern Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, and the southern Caribbean. Since the beginning of August, while many areas have registered below-average rain, central Guatemala, western El Salvador, western Honduras, central Nicaragua, and parts of Costa Rica and Panama have measured above-average rain. Consequently, the latest Water Requirement Satisfaction Index (WRSI) analysis, overall, exhibited favorable crop conditions over Central America.

During the outlook period, model rainfall forecasts suggested that widespread, heavy and above-average rain is expected over Central America. The forecast wetter-than-average patterns are likely to exacerbate ground conditions over many already-flooded areas and/or potentially trigger new flooding and landslides over many localized areas. Meanwhile, a Tropical Wave, located east south east of the Windward Islands, has some chance for developing into a Tropical system, while moving over the eastern and central Caribbean Sea over the next five days.

