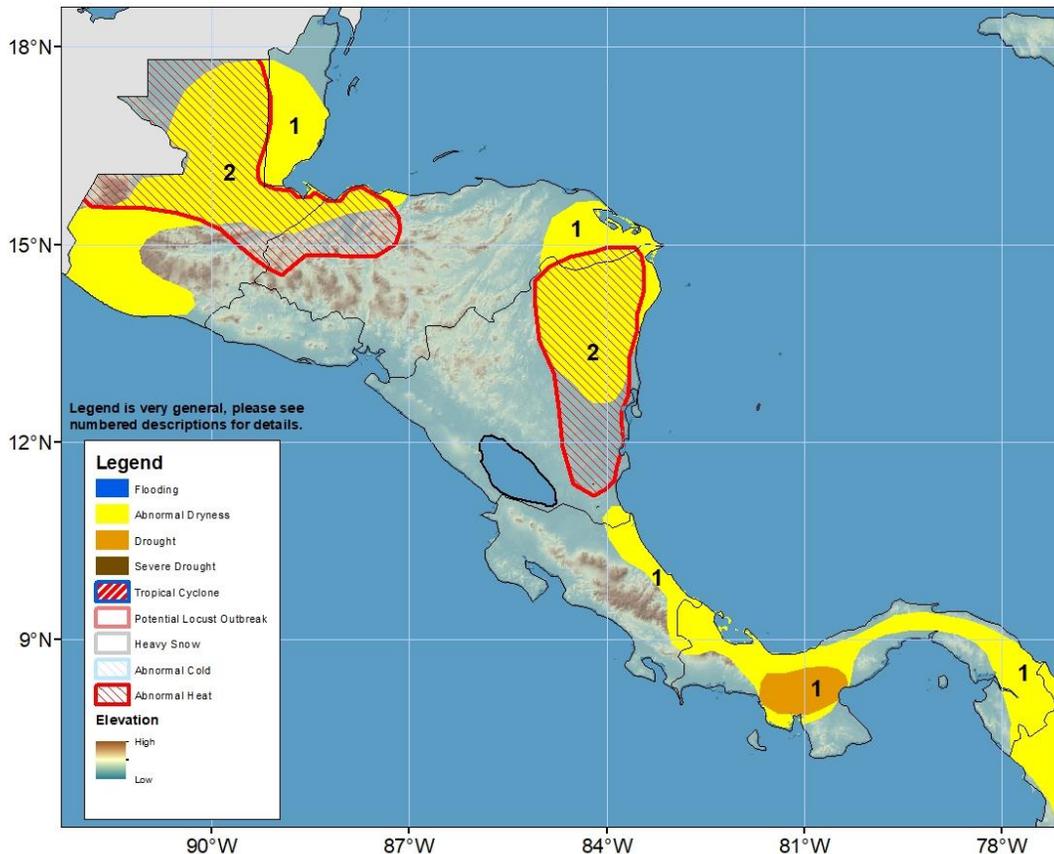


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 2 May – 8 May 2024

### Drier and hotter conditions forecasted in Central America



- 1) The lack of rainfall in the past 30 and 90 days has resulted in prolonged dryness in Guatemala, Belize, western and eastern Honduras, central/northeastern Nicaragua, and the Caribbean Tiers of Costa Rica and Panama. The observed rainfall deficits and above-average temperatures continue to affect the shipping industry in the Panama Canal.
- 2) Temperature forecasts suggest that mean maximum temperatures are likely to be higher than average by 2-6 degrees Celsius in northern Guatemala, western Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua.

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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## Drier conditions forecasted for Central America

During the past week, an increase in rainfall was observed in Central America as moderate and above-average rains fell in southwestern Guatemala, El Salvador, the Gulf of Fonseca, southern and eastern Honduras, and northern Nicaragua. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall was received in southern Costa Rica, western and eastern Panama. In contrast, reduced and limited rainfall was observed over northern Guatemala, Belize, northern Honduras, and southwestern Nicaragua. Over the past 30 days, rainfall was below-average in northern, eastern, and parts of southwestern Guatemala, southwestern Nicaragua, and central Panama. The largest deficits (25-100 mm) concerned northern Guatemala and central Panama. In Guatemala, unevenly distributed rainfall and above-average temperatures have affected cropping activities in the eastern part of the country, according to reports. Conversely, wetter conditions were depicted in eastern El Salvador, southern and eastern Honduras, northeastern Nicaragua, southern Costa Rica, western and eastern parts of Panama. Over the past 90 days, northern and eastern Guatemala, southwestern Nicaragua, northwestern Costa Rica, and central Panama registered cumulative rainfall between 25-80 percent of the average, indicating a poor performance for the December – April, rainfall season. As for vegetation conditions, the latest vegetation products displayed poor conditions in northern Guatemala, central Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua.

During the next week, little to light and below-average rainfall is forecasted over most places in Central America. However, southwestern Guatemala and the Gulf of Fonseca may receive moderate rainfall. Moderate to heavy rainfall is also expected in eastern Panama. Meanwhile, a high chance for abnormal heat exists across northern Guatemala, western Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua as well above-average maximum temperatures, which could affect vulnerable and sensitive people are in the region.

