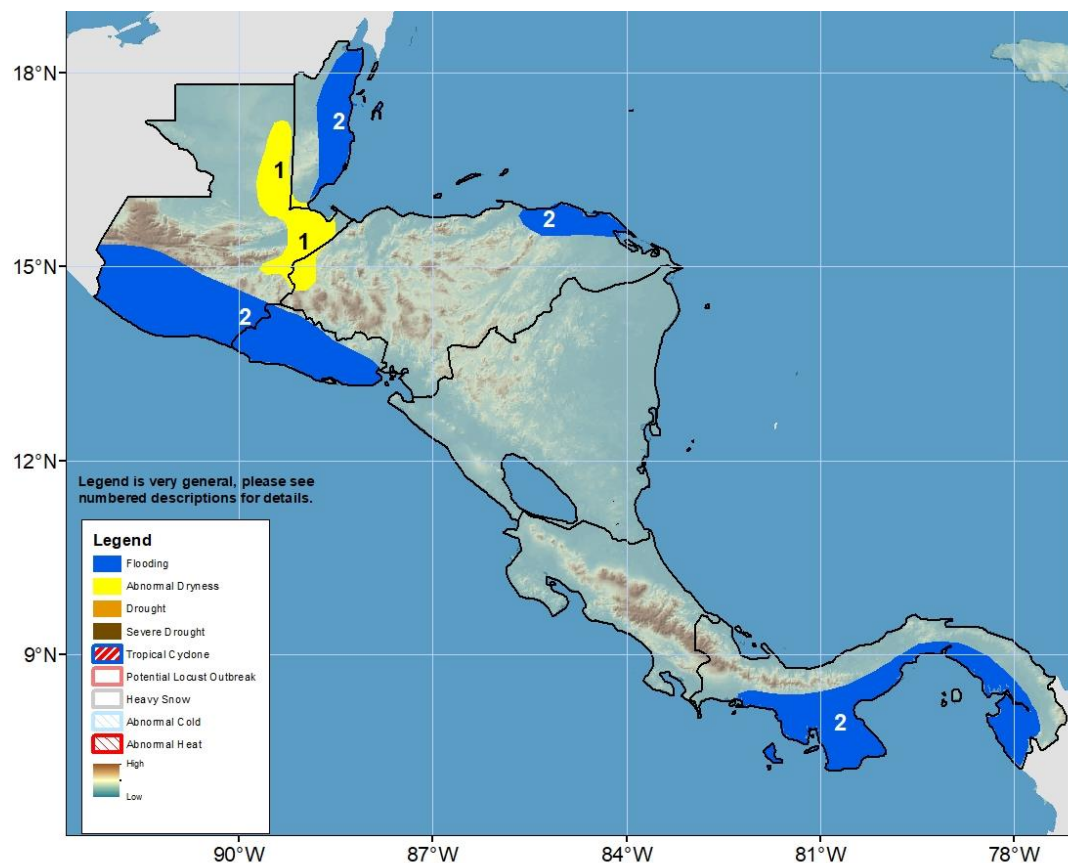


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET

5 September – 11 September 2024

There is an elevated risk for flooding in many areas of the region as a strong tropical wave passes to the north.



- 1) Rainfall was erratic and scarce over central Guatemala, southeastern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua for the past 30 and 90 days. As a result, abnormal dryness polygon is maintained in those regions.
- 2) Predicted heavy rainfall this coming week associated with the passing of strong tropical wave may lead to flooding, especially in areas with already saturated soil.

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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Above average rains are expected for most of the region, which may greatly improve existing rainfall deficits.

During the last week, suppressed rains dominated Central America. However, a few areas did receive heavy and above-average rainfall. Such areas, including western Guatemala and southern Panama, observed rainfall amounts in excess of 100mm. Many parts of the region only received less than 25mm. These included eastern Guatemala, most of Belize, central and northern Honduras, much of Nicaragua, northern Costa Rica, and eastern Panama. Rainfall was 10-50mm below average in those regions. During the last 30 days, conditions have been decidedly mixed in Central America. Some areas, including Belize, northern Honduras, southwestern Guatemala, and northern Nicaragua have been wetter than average, while other areas, such as southern Nicaragua and central Guatemala, have significant and growing deficits (more than 100mm). In addition, the 90-day rainfall analysis shows that central Guatemala, southern Nicaragua, and eastern Panama registered cumulative rainfall deficits between 50-80 percent of the average. Responding to the drier than average rainfall patterns, poor vegetation conditions continued in central Guatemala, central Belize, over the Atlantic-facing regions of Honduras, and pockets of Panama.

Next week, GEFS forecasts suggest that heavy and above-average rainfall will overspread most of the region. Many areas can expect 100-150 mm of rainfall. More than 150mm is likely in southern Costa Rica and Panama. As a result, flooding is a widespread risk, especially where rainfall rates will be highest. Maximum temperature will top 30°C in northern Guatemala, Belize, eastern El Salvador, eastern and western Nicaragua, and northern/eastern Honduras.

