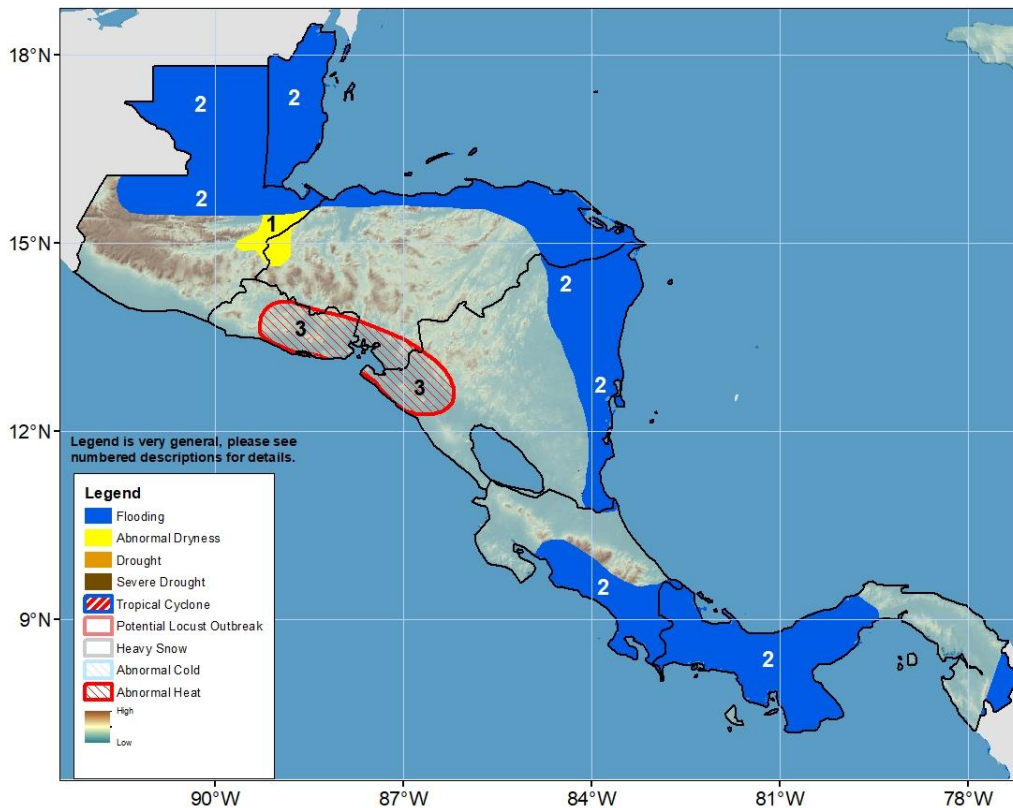


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 24 – 30 October 2024

**High risks for flooding persist over many areas of Central America, including the Atlantic coastlines of the region.**



1) Abnormal dryness polygon is maintained in eastern Guatemala and western Honduras due to rainfall deficits during the past 30 and 90 days, which has affected vegetation health in these regions as well.

2) This past week's passage of Tropical Storm Nadine across Belize and northern Guatemala has led to flooding over many local areas in the region. Heavy rainfall is forecasted over northern Guatemala, Belize, the Caribbean Littorals of Honduras and Nicaragua, and across Costa Rica and Panama, maintaining high risks for flooding and landslides over many previously-flooded areas of Central America.

3) Portions of eastern El Salvador, southern Honduras, and northwestern Nicaragua could experience abnormal heat conditions as above-average maximum temperatures are likely, which could affect sensitive people during the next week.

**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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## High risks for flooding persist over many areas of Central America during the next week

During the past week, torrential (> 100 mm) rainfall fell over northern Belize, northern and eastern Honduras, and the Atlantic Littorals of Nicaragua. This past week's passage of Tropical Storm Nadine brought heavy rainfall not only over Belize but also in northern Guatemala, leading to localized flooding. Abundant rainfall was observed across west-central and southwestern Guatemala, Costa Rica, and parts of Panama. Meanwhile, little to light (<25 mm) rainfall was received over central Guatemala, the Gulf of Fonseca, and western Nicaragua. Due to erratic rainfall distribution over the past 30 days, rainfall deficits persisted over northern and southwestern Guatemala, Belize, western Honduras, El Salvador, and eastern Panama, while rainfall surpluses continued across central Guatemala, much of Honduras, Nicaragua, central Costa Rica, and western Panama. Moreover, the drier conditions and above-average temperatures over the past few months have led to an environment, favorable to locust infestation over many areas such as Guatemala, El Salvador, and Panama, according to reports. Over the past 90 days, although cumulative rainfall was only between 50-80% of the average over northern and southeastern Guatemala, western Honduras, El Salvador, southern Nicaragua, and eastern Panama, the recent weeks' enhanced rainfall has triggered flooding, landslides, and overflowing of rivers over many areas of Central America.

Next week, heavy (> 50 mm) rainfall is likely over northern Guatemala, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama, and along the Atlantic coastlines of Central America, which could exacerbate conditions over previously-flooded areas and or trigger new flooding over many local areas. Moderate rainfall is expected across the inland of the region, whereas light to moderate rainfall is forecasted along the *dry Corridor*, across the Pacific-facing regions. The forecasted below-average rainfall may worsen drier conditions in southern Guatemala and El Salvador. Also, maximum temperatures could rise up to 4°C above average across eastern Salvador, southern Honduras, and northwestern Nicaragua, potentially affecting vulnerable people, prompting for an abnormal heat hazard in the region.

