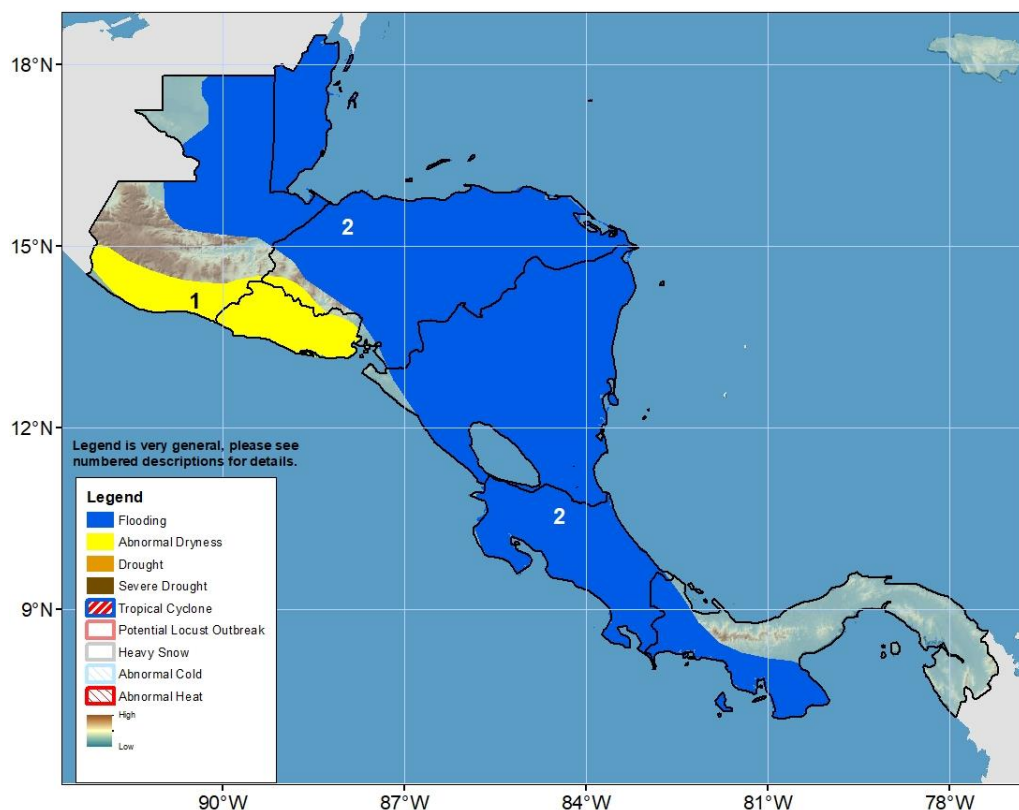


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET

21 November – 27 November 2024

Cleanup from flooding and landslides is ongoing with threat for additional flooding in the outlook period.



1) An Abnormal Dryness polygon is present in southern Guatemala and El Salvador due to below-average rainfall during the past 90 days, which has negatively affected vegetation health over local areas in these regions.

2) Due to widespread heavy rain over recent weeks, and the forecast for additional heavy rainfall this coming week, the risk for additional flooding remains high. As such, a flooding hazard covers a large portion of the region, including Belize, northern Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and western Panama.

**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.

Questions or comments about the hazards outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, [wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov](mailto:wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov). Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, [jverdin@usaid.gov](mailto:jverdin@usaid.gov).

## Heavy and above average rains shift eastward and southward next week.

During the past week, heavy rains continued over Guatemala, Belize, and northwestern Honduras. The highest totals in localized areas exceeded 300mm. Moderate rains were observed over few parts of southern Costa Rica and Panama. Meanwhile, light rainfall, less than 25mm, occurred in Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and much of Costa Rica. While rainfall was well-above average in Guatemala, Belize, and northeastern Honduras, southern and eastern portions of the region saw rainfall suppressed by 25mm to more than 50 mm. Fresh alerts due to flood concerns were issued by the national government in Costa Rica, while cleanup continues and rivers slowly recede in areas affected by tropical storm Sara. Additionally, the heavy rains are detrimental to many crops, including grains veggies and Bananas. During the past 30 days, large positive rainfall anomalies are present over Belize, Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica, and parts of Nicaragua. However, pockets of negative anomalies are present over northeastern Nicaragua, and a few parts of Panama. Since late August, seasonal rainfall is above average in Belize, central Guatemala, Honduras, a few parts of Nicaragua and Costa Rica; but performed mostly between 50-80% of the average over northern and southern Guatemala, El Salvador, eastern Nicaragua, and parts of Panama.

Next week, the heaviest rainfall will shift toward Caribbean-facing regions of Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica as well as most of Panama. Totals of 100mm to locally more than 150mm are forecasted according to the GEFS model. Light and suppressed rains are expected for Belize, Guatemala, and El Salvador. This pattern will reinforce flood risk for some of the same and additional portions of the region. Meanwhile, 7-day mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be near or slightly below average across the region.

