

## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 20 – 26 March 2025

**Moderate rainfall will likely be observed in eastern 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)

### **Slightly above-average rainfall is expected in eastern Costa Rica and Panama.**

Last week, most of Central America observed no rainfall. However, rainfall ranging from 5 mm to 50 mm was observed in localized areas in eastern Guatemala, western Honduras, and east and central Costa Rica. Near-average conditions prevail across Central America, but slightly negative anomalies between 10 mm and 25 mm were observed in a few areas across Guatemala and southern Belize. For the past 30 days, above-average rainfall ranging from 100 mm to 500 mm has been registered in central and northern Guatemala, Costa Rica, and along western coastal areas facing the Pacific Ocean in Panama. Moreover, the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index shows near-average to above-average vegetation conditions in most of Central America, except in local areas in southern Guatemala, southeastern Honduras, northeastern Nicaragua, and along the coastal areas facing the Caribbean Sea, which show below-average vegetation conditions. Furthermore, minimum temperatures were warmer than average in Guatemala, El Salvador, and western Honduras, with values from 2°C to 8°C above the mean. Similarly, above-average maximum anomalies of 2 – 6°C were observed in eastern Guatemala, southeastern Belize, western and eastern Honduras, eastern Nicaragua, and northern Costa Rica.

Next week, light rainfall is forecasted in most of Central America. Rainfall totals ranging from 10 – 50 mm are expected in central and northern Guatemala, Belize, and along the eastern coasts of Central America. Furthermore, in eastern Panama rainfall totals will likely range between 50 mm and 100 mm. Furthermore, below-average conditions between 10 mm and 20 mm are expected in western Guatemala, while positive anomalies are forecasted in eastern Costa Rica, most of Panama. Most of the region will observe near-average rainfall conditions. Moreover, the forecast suggests that maximum anomalies will be above-average with positive anomalies ranging from 2°C to 4°C in southwestern Guatemala and local areas in Guatemala, western Honduras, and Nicaragua.

