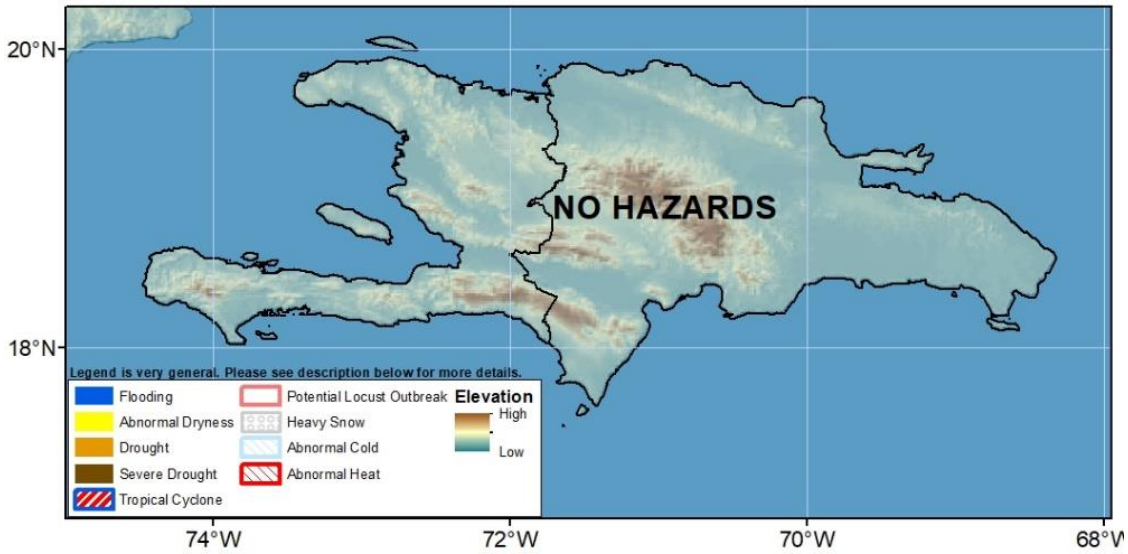
Climate Prediction Center's Hispaniola Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
14 December – 20 December 2023

Some coastal rain is continuing over Hispaniola.



During the last week, some light to moderate rains occurred along the southern and northern coasts, while the interior was dry. The rainfall season is winding down for Hispaniola, so only modest negative anomalies resulted from this pattern, mainly along the south. Over the 30-day period, rainfall conditions are above average in northwestern, southern, and eastern Hispaniola. However, an analysis of rainfall over the past 90 days indicates that dryness persisted throughout Hispaniola, particularly in east-central Haiti and east-central Dominican Republic, where total rainfall deficits reach up to 300 mm. These rainfall deficits have led to large soil moisture deficits, dryness, and degraded vegetation over many local areas. During the outlook period, the GEFS model predicts slightly wetter than average conditions for most parts of Hispaniola, with rainfall values greater than 25 mm and locally greater than 50mm in eastern Dominican Republic and western portions of Haiti. Lighter amounts between 2 and 10 mm are predicted for central portions of the island. Given that the rainfall season has ended for many areas and that rainfall was generally improved during November, the abnormal dryness and drought polygons have been removed.

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. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov