CariCOF Drought Outlook
By the end of June 2020

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Participating territories
Antigua & Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guyana, Haïti, Jamaica, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Barth’s, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten/St-Martin, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago and the US Virgin Islands
Current update (March 2020):

We are currently in the dry season. Currently, shorter term drought concern exists in many areas of the Caribbean region, notably:

A **drought warning** should be considered for the ABC Islands, Barbados, east-central Belize, much of French Guiana, the Windward Islands (except Dominica), Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago.

A **drought watch** should be considered for parts of Belize, Dominica, Dominican Rep., S French Guiana, N. Guyana, the Leeward Islands (except Guadeloupe), US C’bean Territories.

For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your national meteorological service. CariCOF outlooks speak to recent and expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.
This 12-month SPI-based drought outlook uses observations through February 2020, with potential impacts on large surface water reservoirs and groundwater. In general, impacts are expected if the 12-month SPI is ≤-0.8 (moderately dry or worse – ref.: CDPMN).

- **A drought warning** should be considered for northwestern half of Belize, eastern Cuba, most of Dominican Republic, Guyana, the Lesser Antilles (except Guadeloupe and Sint Maarten).

- **A drought watch** should be considered for the ABC is., southeastern Belize, the remainder of the Greater Antilles (except Central Cuba and western Puerto Rico), French Guiana, Sint Maarten, and Suriname.

For climate information specific to your country, please consult with your national meteorological service. CariCOF outlooks speak to recent and expected climate trends across the Caribbean in general.
Drought outlook – shorter-/longer-term concern?

• Current drought situation (at the end of February 2020): (more information here)
  – Moderate (or worse) shorter term drought has developed in southeastern parts of The Bahamas, French Guiana, northern Guyana, St. Vincent and southern Suriname.
  – Moderate (or worse) long term drought has developed in ABC Is., northernmost and southeastern parts of the Bahamas, Barbados, most of Belize, the Cayman Islands, Central and Eastern Cuba, much of French Guiana, easternmost Guadeloupe, most of Hispaniola, Martinique, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, eastern Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, USVI.

• Shorter term drought situation (by the end of June 2020):
  – **Shorter term drought is evolving** in ABC Islands, Barbados, east-central Belize, much of French Guiana, the Windward Islands (except Dominica), Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago.
  – Shorter term drought might possibly develop or continue in parts of Belize, Dominica, Dominican Rep., S French Guiana, N. Guyana, the Leeward Islands (except Guadeloupe), US C’bean Territories.

• Long term drought situation (by the end of May 2020):
  – **Long term drought is evolving** in northwestern half of Belize, eastern Cuba, most of Dominican Republic, Guyana, the Lesser Antilles (except Guadeloupe and Sint Maarten).
  – Long term drought might possibly develop or continue in ABC Is., southeastern Belize, the remainder of the Greater Antilles (except Central Cuba and western Puerto Rico), French Guiana, Sint Maarten, and Suriname.
  – Areas ending up in long term drought by the end of May may experience significantly reduced water levels in large reservoirs, large rivers and groundwater during the dry season.

*We advise all stakeholders to keep monitoring drought and look for our monthly updates.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALERT LEVEL</th>
<th>MEANING</th>
<th>ACTION LEVEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO CONCERN</td>
<td>No drought concern</td>
<td>✓ monitor resources ✓ update and ratify management plans ✓ public awareness campaigns ✓ upgrade infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DROUGHT WATCH</td>
<td>Drought possible</td>
<td>✓ keep updated ✓ protect resources and conserve water ✓ implement management plans ✓ response training ✓ monitor and repair infrastructure</td>
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<tr>
<td>DROUGHT WARNING</td>
<td>Drought evolving</td>
<td>✓ protect resources ✓ conserve and recycle water ✓ implement management plans ✓ release public service announcements ✓ last minute infrastructural repairs and upgrades ✓ report impacts</td>
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<tr>
<td>DROUGHT EMERGENCY</td>
<td>Drought of immediate concern</td>
<td>✓ release public service announcements ✓ implement management and response plans ✓ enforce water restrictions and recycling ✓ enforce resource protection ✓ repair infrastructure ✓ report impacts</td>
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</tbody>
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