Severe Weather Advisory for Haiti.

Risk of Enhanced Rainfall for SW Haiti.

Issued on Monday, 17 October 2016 at 09:45 local time.

Headline

Risk of heavy rain and thunderstorms affecting South-Western Haiti later this week.
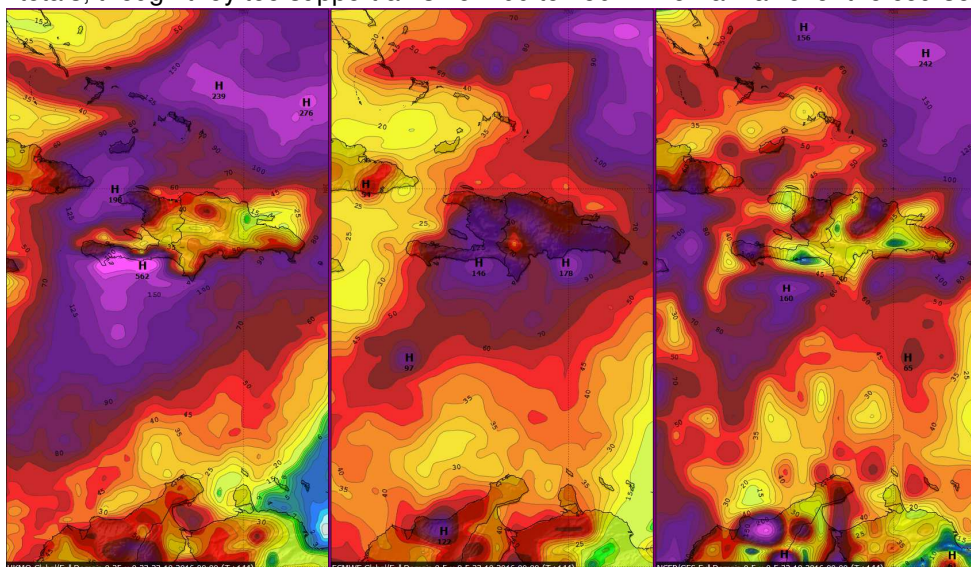This likely to affect the region of Haiti devastated by Hurricane Matthew recently.

Impacts

- Heavy showers and thunderstorms with a risk of 100 to 150 mm of rainfall per day, very locally 200 mm per day. The main risk period is from Wednesday to Friday.
- Potential for further flash flooding, land and mudslides affecting the region already devastated by Hurricane Matthew.

Discussion

There is a signal from all the main global models for a period of enhanced rainfall to develop across large parts of The Caribbean through the course of this week. While this in itself is not unusual, clearly there is increased sensitivity to such events across parts of south-western Haiti which has been devastated by Hurricane Matthew recently.

There are some model differences as to how much rainfall is likely. The UK Global Model is much more developed with its signal, suggesting 250 to 300 mm per day on Thursday and Friday resulting in total accumulations in excess of 500 mm in places over the period. EC and GFS both produce lower rainfall totals, though they too support a risk of 100 to 150 mm of rainfall over the course of two to three days.

The graphic to the left shows rainfall totals through a six day period from GM (left), EC (centre) and GFS (right) and highlights the uncertainty described above. However all show significant amounts of rainfall which could add to the problems already affecting Haiti, and hamper ongoing relief efforts in the area.

Sources

Met Office, ECMWF, NCEP.

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