NASA sees Tropical Depression 9 form east of Lesser Antilles
17 August 2017

The National Hurricane Center (NHC) issued a Tropical Storm Warning for Martinique, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines. A Tropical Storm Watch is in effect for Dominica. Tropical storm conditions are expected to first reach the Lesser Antilles within the warning area by early Friday, Aug. 18.

At 11 a.m. EDT (1500 UTC), the disturbance was centered near 13.1 degrees north latitude and 54.1 degrees west longitude. The system was moving toward the west near 17 mph (28 kph) and this motion is expected to continue for the next couple of days. On the forecast track, the disturbance should move through the Windward Islands and into the eastern Caribbean Sea on Aug. 18. Maximum sustained winds are near 35 mph (55 kph) with higher gusts.

The NHC noted that the depression is expected to become a tropical storm before reaching the Windward Islands.

The depression is expected to bring heavy rainfall across portions of the Windward Islands from Martinique southward to Grenada with totals between 2 and 4 inches expected. These rains could cause life-threatening flash floods and mudslides.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center