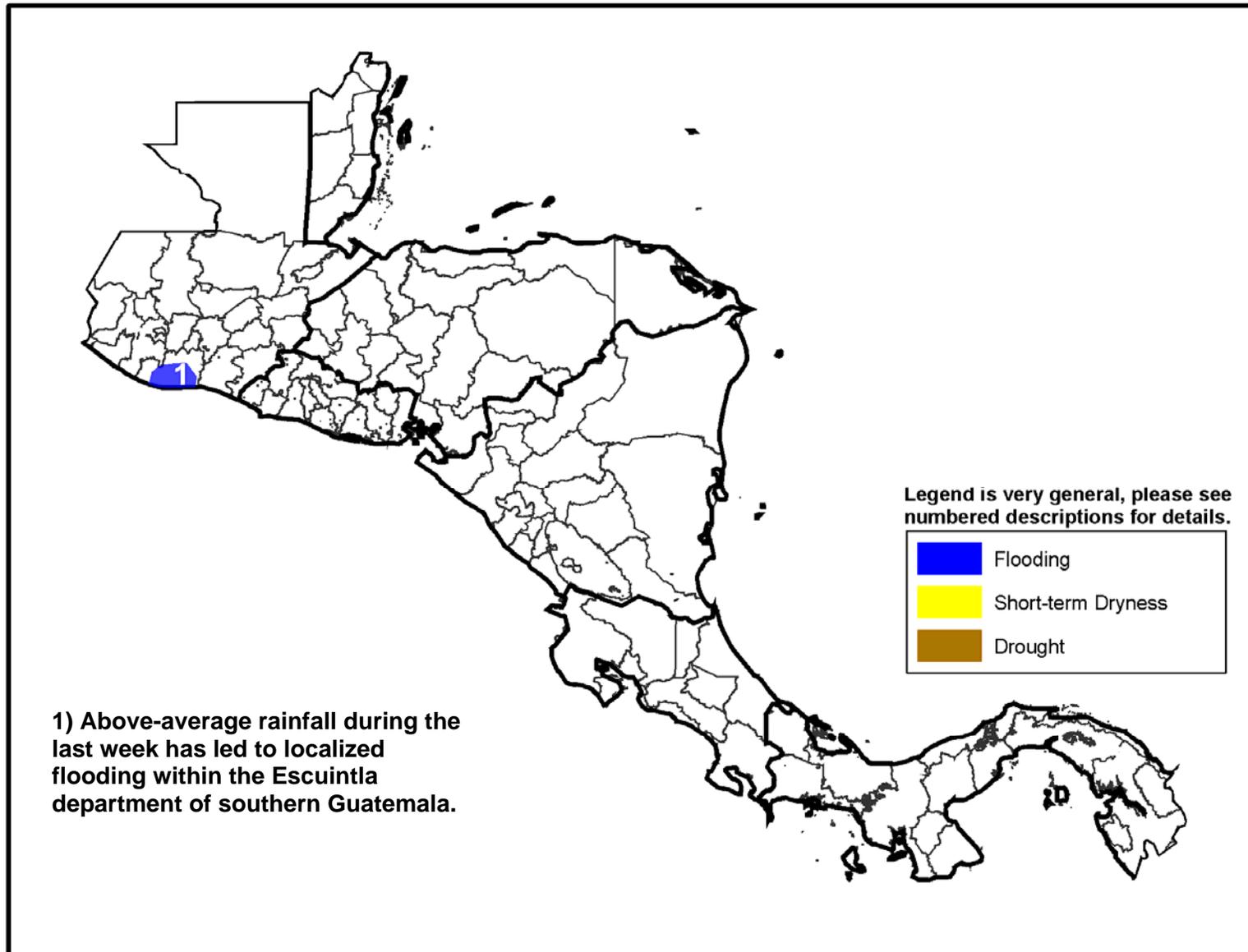


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America April 15 – April 21, 2010

- High amounts of precipitation were observed over southern Guatemala, with lighter rain amounts received in some areas affected by long-term dryness in parts of southern Honduras and Nicaragua.



Above-average rainfall received in Guatemala during the last seven days.

During the last observation period, an increase in precipitation was observed across portions of southern Guatemala, as well as parts southwestern Honduras and Nicaragua. The heaviest rains in the last week were received in southern Guatemala, with seven day rainfall totals ranging between 25- 75 mm. Since the start of April, rainfall in Guatemala has been above-average for the departments of Escuintla, Retalhuleu, Guatemala, Totonicapán, Izabal and Chiquimula. The latest weekly rainfall amounts resulted in localized flooding within the Escuintla department, and there remains the possibility of additional flooding across southern Guatemala if the above-average rains persist over the next several weeks. Further south, a minor disturbance in southern Caribbean brought light to moderate rains across portions Costa Rica and Panama.

Precipitation forecasts suggest an increase in rainfall across the Central America domain, which is expected to help relieve areas affected by long-term dryness. Rainfall in excess of 50mm is expected for areas in the southern Caribbean, as well as moderate to higher totals for parts of central Guatemala, and southern Honduras (**Figure 1**).

