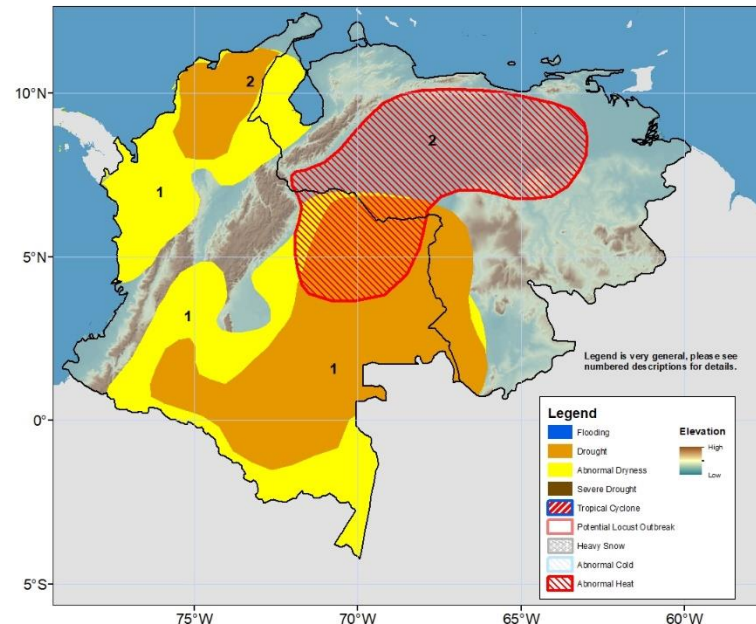


## Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET

28 December, 2023 – 3 January, 2024

Seasonal rainfall deficits and high temperatures continue across the region.



During the last week, very heavy rainfall (between 100 mm and 300 mm) was registered in far-western parts of Colombia. These amounts were higher than average for late December. Locally heavy rainfall was also observed in southern Colombia, as well as in southeastern Venezuela. Lighter rains were observed in central Colombia. Little rain was observed over the remaining northern portion of the region. Outside of the localized areas of heaviest rainfall, most of the region observed 7-day rainfall deficits. Over the past 30 days, the Llanos, Amazonía, and parts of the Andes regions of Colombia, as well as the Amazonas and eastern Bolivar states of Venezuela, showed rainfall deficits larger than 100 mm. Rainfall deficits also prevailed over the past 90 days, with the driest conditions over northern, southern, and eastern Colombia, as well as northwestern and southwestern Venezuela, where total rainfall deficits are 300 - 500 mm or larger. This prolonged dryness has led to large moisture deficits, reduced water availability, and notably deteriorated vegetation across the region. In Colombia, livestock has been mainly affected by the dry conditions, and thus, cattle are being relocated due to deteriorated pasture (**polygons 1**). It is also reported that river levels are lower than normal in the Amazon Basin.

During the next week, heavy rainfall is expected across western Colombia with anomalously high rainfall predicted (anomalies of 30 - 100 mm). 7-day totals of at least 50 mm are expected in southern Venezuela, southeastern Colombia, while more than 100 mm is likely across much of western Colombia. Furthermore, above-average maximum temperatures (1-4°C anomaly) will prevail in eastern Colombia and northern Venezuela. These warmer temperatures and rainfall deficits may worsen vegetation conditions and affect vulnerable people in the region (**polygons 2**).

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.