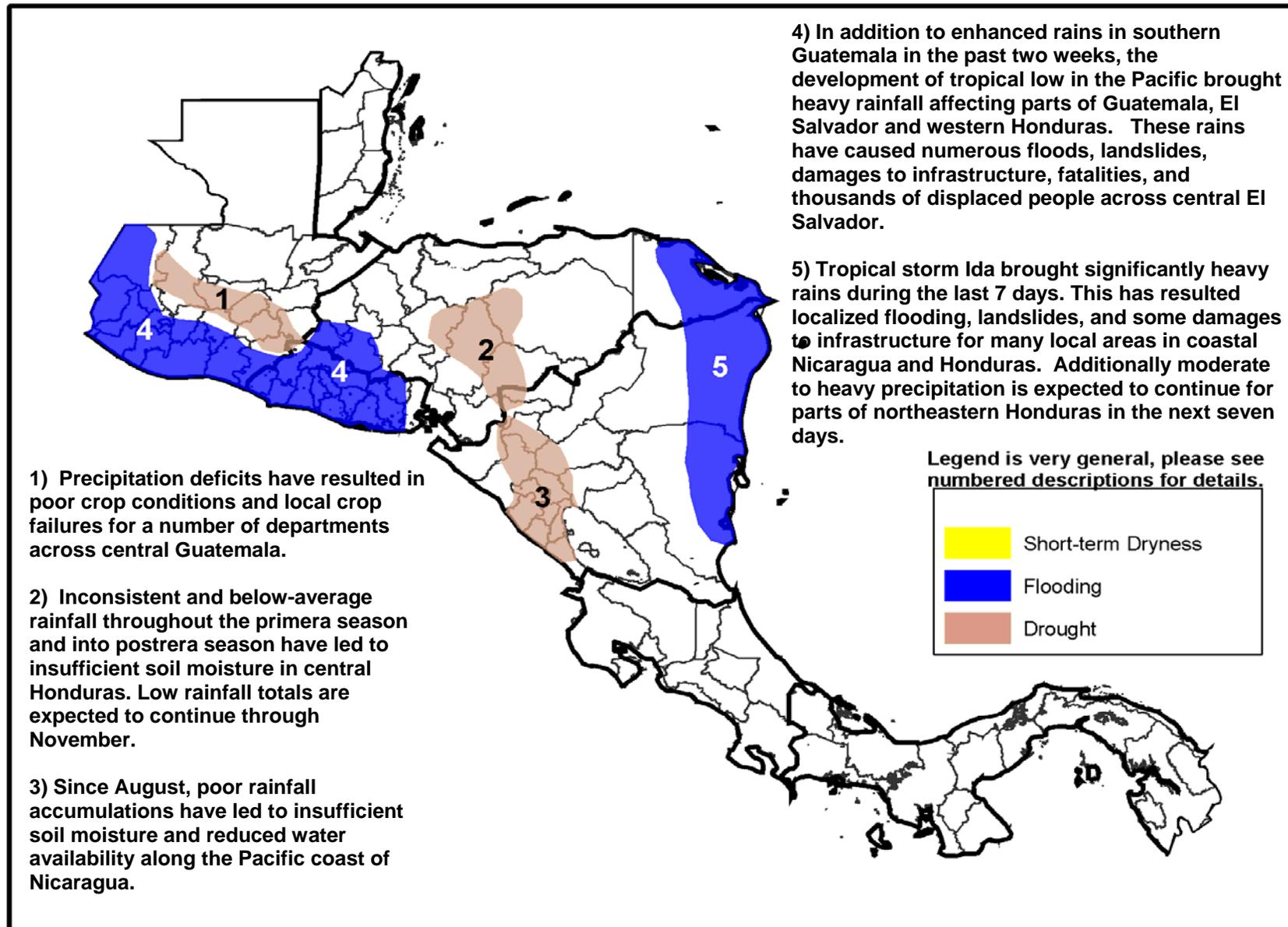


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America November 12 – November 18, 2009

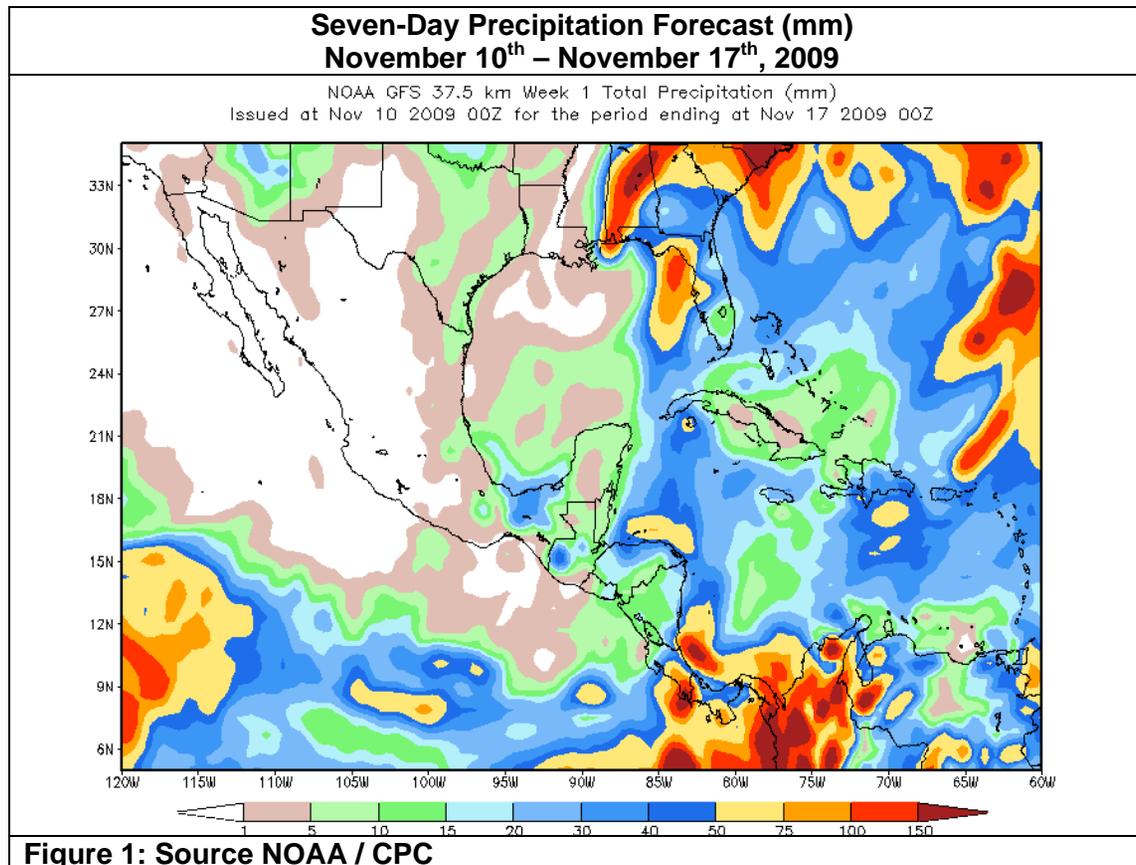
- Tropical activity in the Atlantic and Pacific basins have caused localized floods, landslides and damages to infrastructure across Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala in the last seven days.



A late emergence of tropical activity causes localized floods, landslides, damages to infrastructure in the last week.

In the last seven days, significant amounts of precipitation were received throughout many parts of Central America. In Guatemala and El Salvador, increased moisture associated with Tropical Storm Ida in the Caribbean, and the development of a tropical low in the Pacific resulted in significantly heavy amounts of rain over many parts southern Guatemala, western Honduras and El Salvador. In El Salvador, precipitation totals in excess of 200mm have caused localized flooding, landslides, infrastructure damages, fatalities, and thousands of displaced people in the departments of San Salvador, La Libertad, San Vicente, and La Paz. In Guatemala, the persistence of high rainfall totals have also caused inundation along the Coyolate River, producing flooding and damages to roadway, bridges and houses in the municipalities of Escuintla and Santa Lucia Cotzumalguapa. Further east, the slow progression of Tropical Storm Ida also brought heavy rains and high winds which led to localized flooding, landslides and some damages to infrastructure across many local areas in the Atlantic departments of Nicaragua and western Honduras.

Precipitation forecasts suggest a break to the above-average rainfall observed over portions of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador in the last two weeks. Rainfall accumulations between 15-40 mm are expected over parts of southwestern Guatemala, with higher totals (> 40mm) expected over parts of northern Honduras and eastern Nicaragua during the next observation period.



MFEWS 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 MFEWS weather hazards assessment process and products include participation by MFEWS field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries such as, INETER of Nicaragua, Meteorological Service of Honduras, IMN of Costa Rica, INSIVUMEH of Guatemala, ETESA of Panama, NMS of Belize and SNET of El Salvador. Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-763-8000 x7566. Questions about the USAID MFEWS activity may be directed to Gary Eilerts, USAID Program Manager for MFEWS, 1-202-219-0500 or geilerts@usaid.gov.