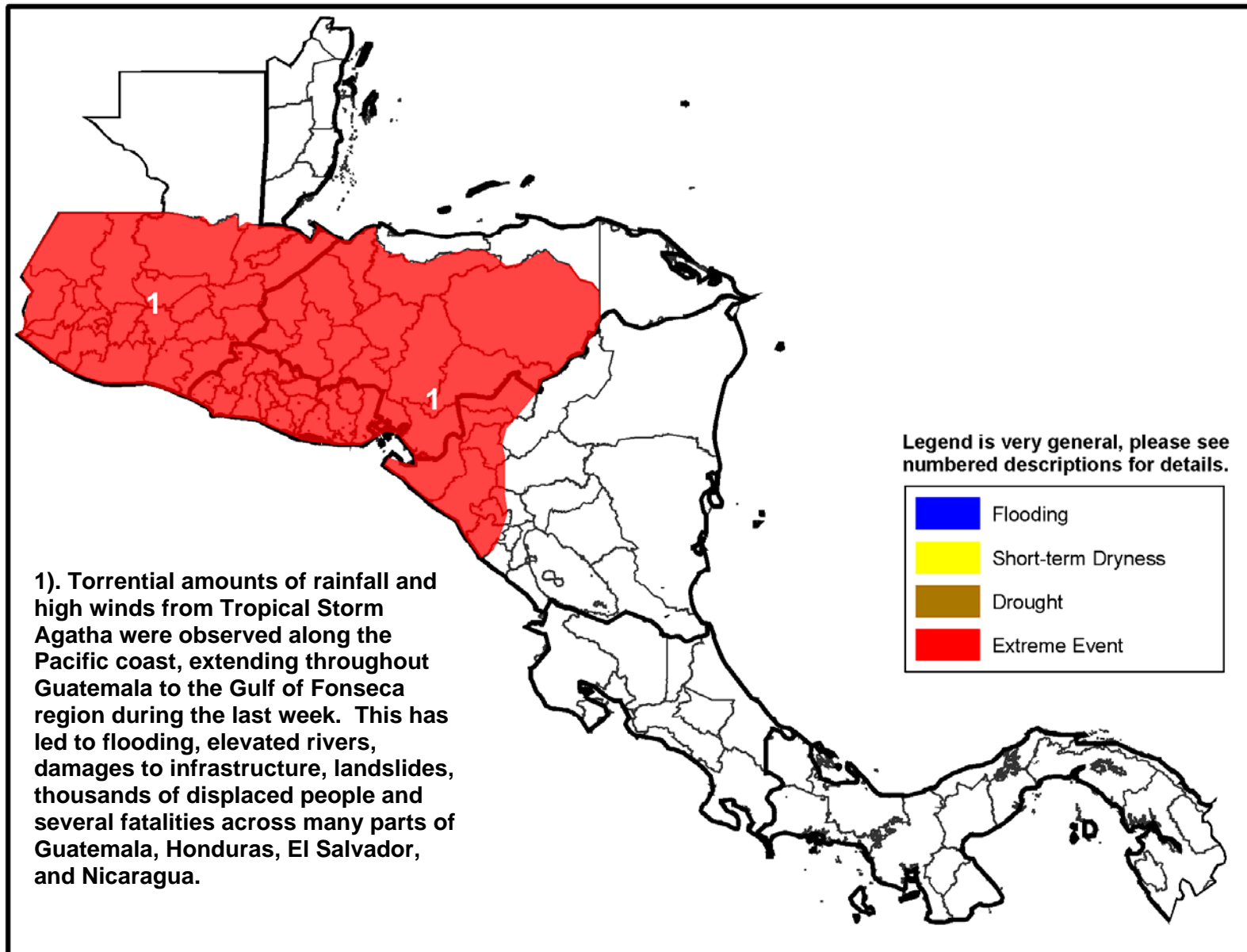


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America June 3 – June 9, 2010

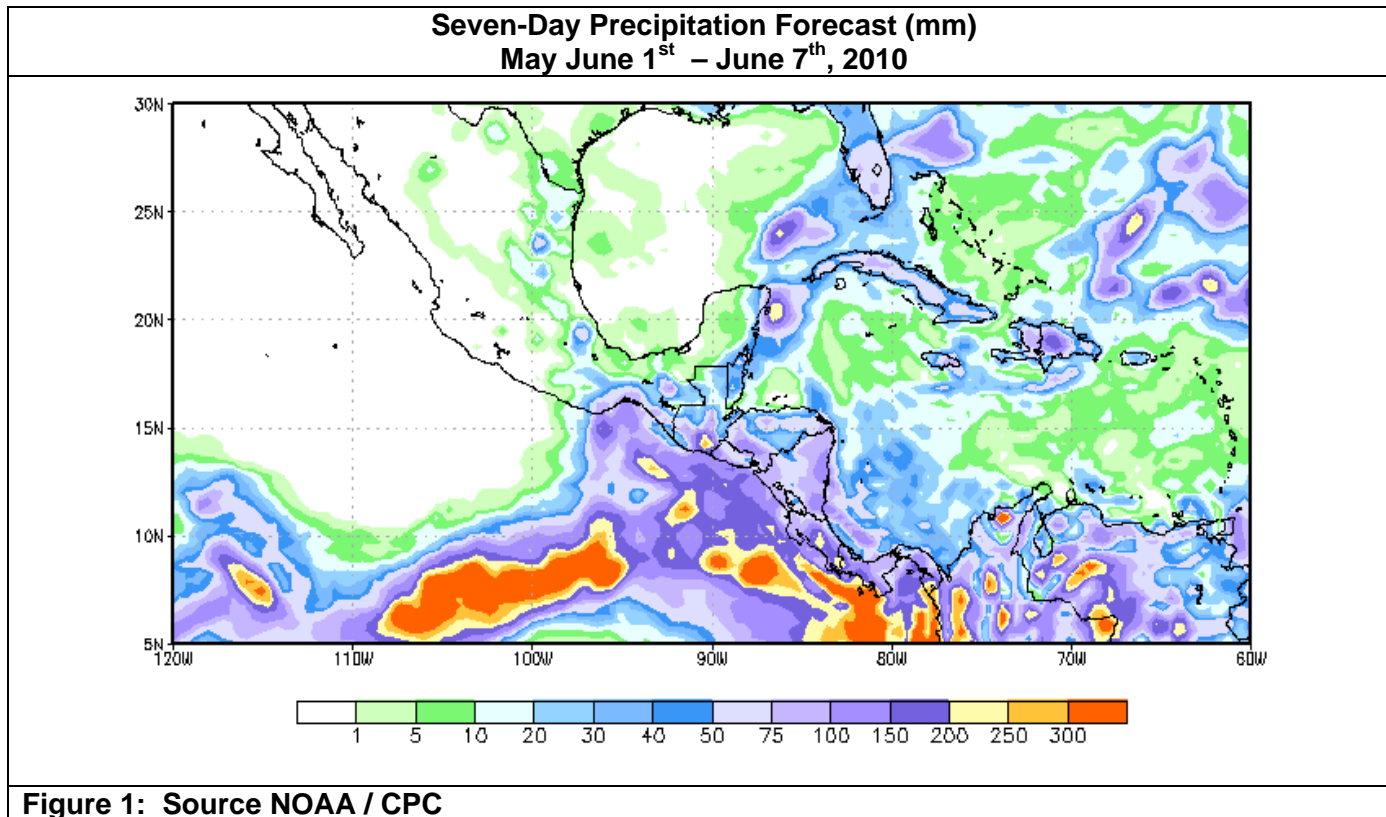
- The passage of Tropical storm Agatha has resulted in numerous incidents of flooding, elevated river levels, landslides, thousands of displaced people, and several fatalities throughout parts of El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala during the last week.



The passage of Tropical Storm Agatha leads to numerous floods, landslides and fatalities in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua.

During the last week, the intensification of a tropical disturbance off the coast of southern Guatemala resulted in the first Tropical Storm of the East Pacific Hurricane season. Tropical Storm Agatha produced high winds and significantly heavy amounts of precipitation in excess of 200mm across many coastal and inland areas extending from Guatemala to the Gulf of Fonseca region. These persistently heavy rains caused numerous reports of flooding, elevated rivers, landslides, damages to infrastructure and roads, thousands of displaced people, and nearly 200 fatalities across many parts of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. After the weakening of Agatha by the end of the observation period, many regions in Central America are still experiencing the damaging aftermath, including additionally displaced people, and a number of crops losses and damaged fruit plantations. It is likely recovery efforts will be ongoing for the next several weeks.

Precipitation forecasts suggest another week of above-average rains across the Pacific basin of Central America. During the next week, seven-day rainfall amounts ranging between 75mm-100mm, with locally heavier amounts (>150mm) are likely in parts of southern Guatemala and Honduras, as well as parts central Costa Rica and Panama. These rains are likely to worsen flooding conditions and impede recovery efforts from Agatha during the next seven days.



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.