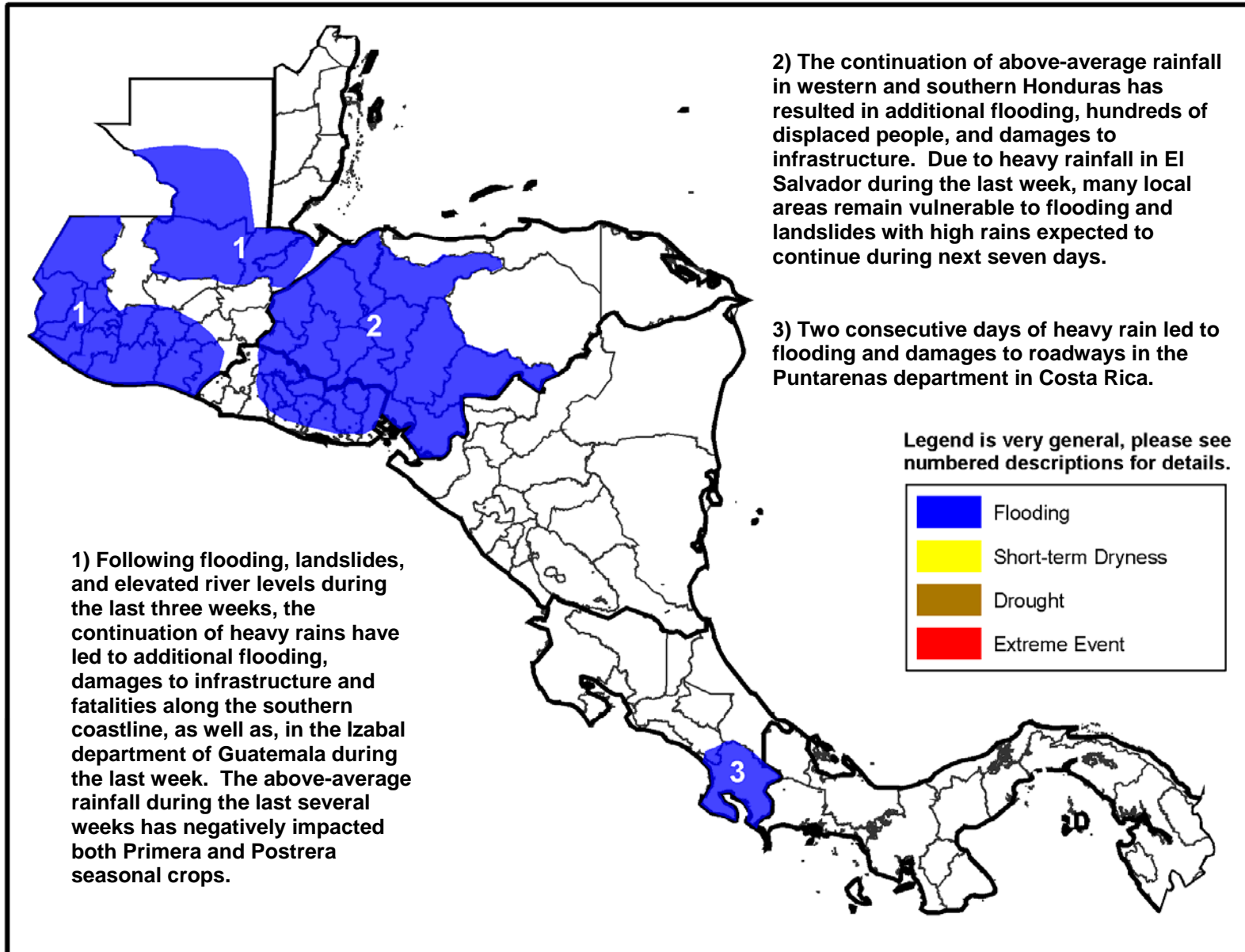


## The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America August 26 – September 1, 2010

- The continuation of above average rainfall across many local parts of Guatemala and Honduras has triggered additional flooding, landslides, damages to infrastructure, and many displaced people.



**Continued heavy precipitation continues to trigger additional flooding, landslides, damages to infrastructure and negatively affect cropping activities.**

During the last observation period, significantly high rainfall accumulations were observed for a number of areas in Central America. In Guatemala, excessive seven day rainfall resulted in flooding, elevated river levels, damages to infrastructure, and fatalities in the southern departments of Escuintla, Santa Rosa, San Marcos, as well as further north in the Guatemala and Izabal departments. In Honduras, continued moderate to heavy rainfall triggered additional flooding, landslides, and hundreds of displaced people in southern Honduras. In El Salvador, consecutive weeks of above-average precipitation have left many local areas vulnerable for flooding and landslides during the next week. In Costa Rica, high rainfall also led to flooding and damages to infrastructure in the Puntarenas department along the Pacific coastline and Panama border. Due to the above-average rainfall over the last three months, excess water is expected to negatively affect the harvesting of Primera crops, as well as the sowing of Postrera crops throughout Central America. Water-borne disease may lead to reductions in maize and bean yields.

Precipitation forecasts maintain a high probability for heavy rainfall (>50mm) for many areas in Central America, as well as areas previously impacted by flooding during the last several weeks. These rains are likely to aggravate local flooding conditions, elevate river levels, and possibly produce additional flooding for many local areas in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. No significant tropical activity is expected during the next week.

