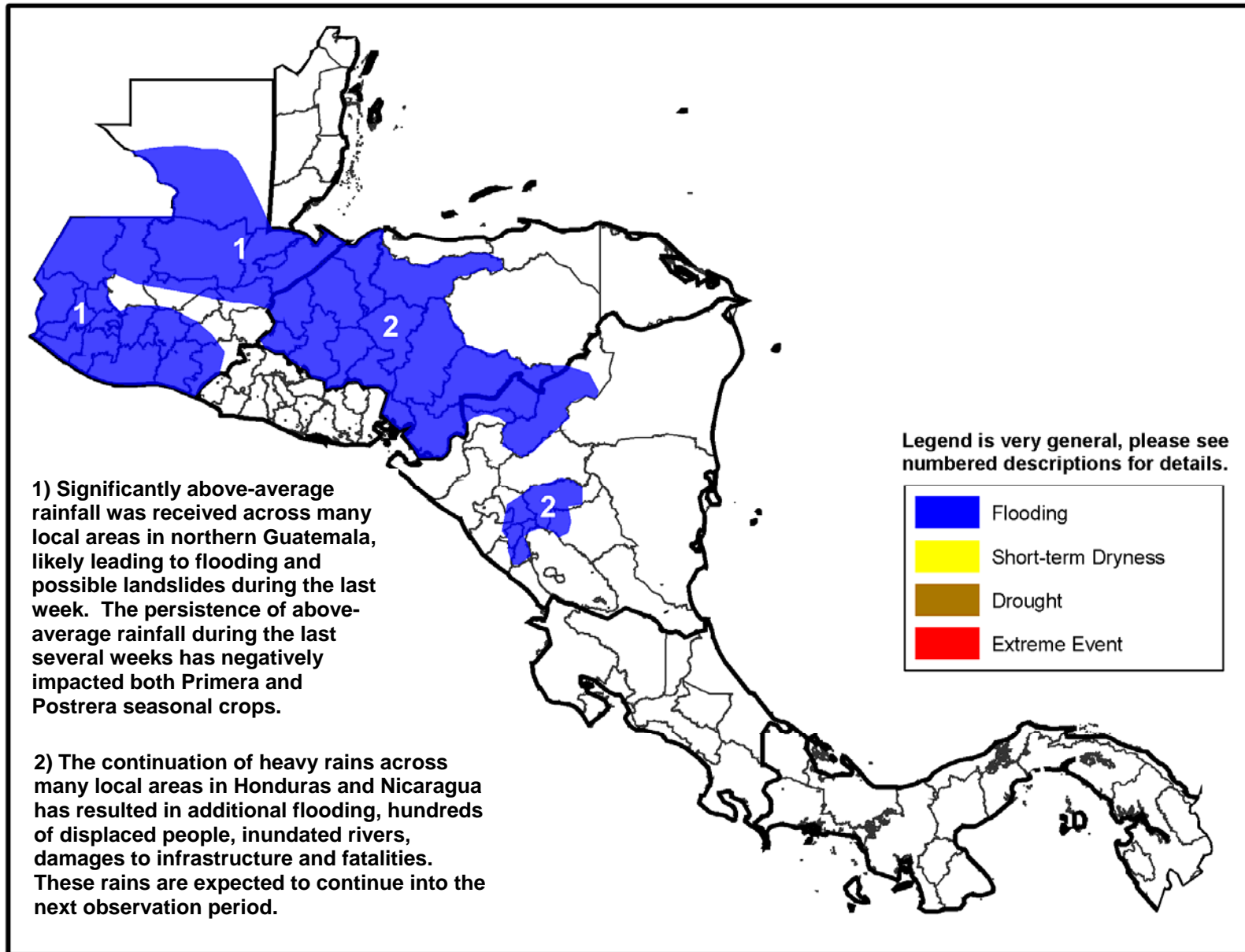


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America September 2 – September 8, 2010

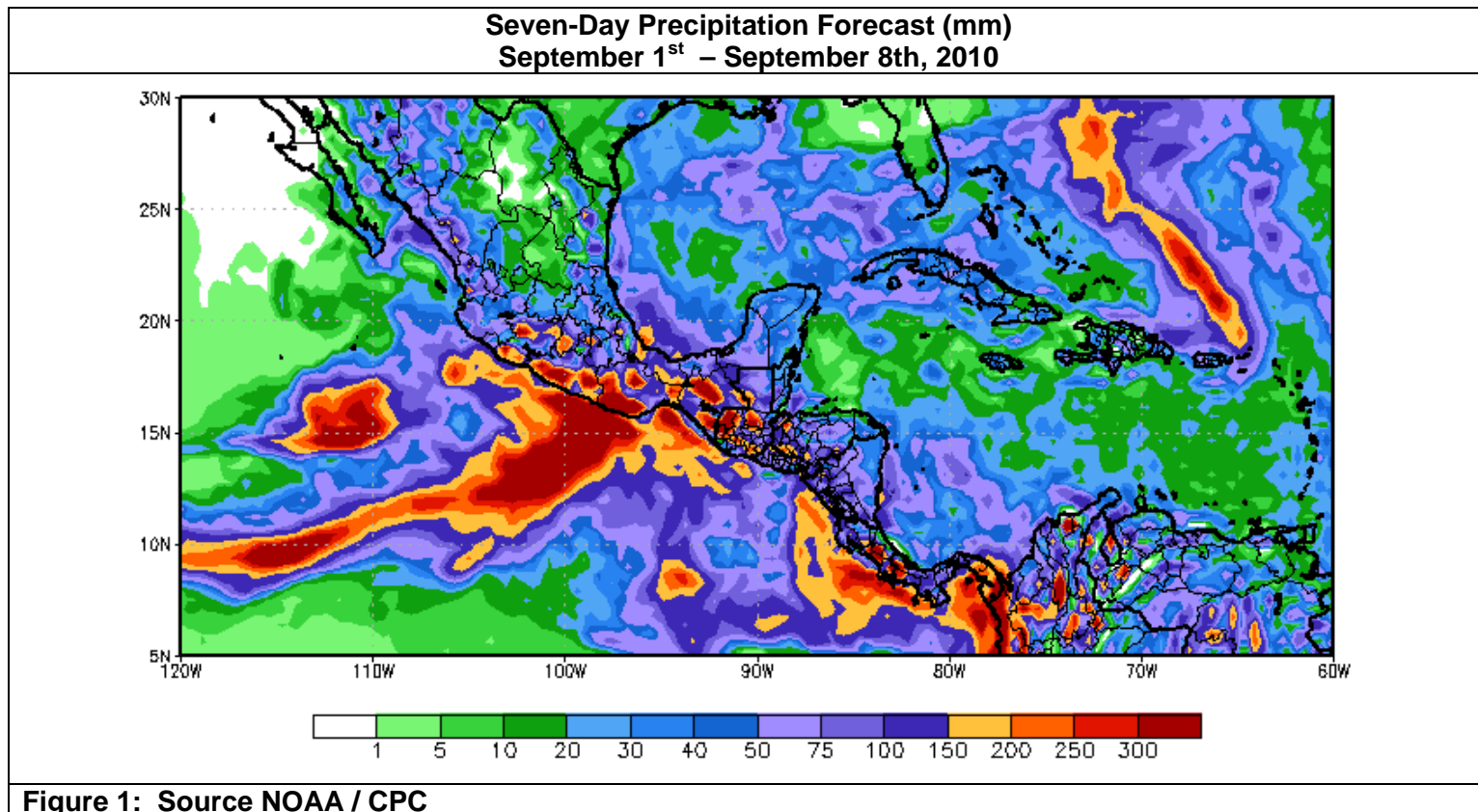
- Heavy rains are expected to continue across many areas already impacted by flooding in Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.



The Primera rains season remains one of the wettest in recent years.

During the last seven days, abundant precipitation amounts were received across many areas of Central America. Throughout many departments of Guatemala, seven day rainfall accumulations exceeded 100mm, with some areas in the north receiving locally heavier amounts (>150mm). This high rainfall in Guatemala marks the second consecutive week where rainfall remained well above-average, after a number of departments have experienced a number of floods, landslides and fatalities due to the rains in the last several weeks. In Honduras, heavy rains have led to damages to crops in the Sula valley, with flooding and landslides near the capital region in the east. In Nicaragua, heavy rainfall in the last week led to flooding, landslides, inundated rivers, damages to infrastructure, displaced people and fatalities in the Masaya, Grenada, Jinotega, Nueva Segovia, and Boaco departments. Since the beginning of May, many local areas in Central America have observed at least 125 percent of their normal accumulated rainfall for the Primera season.

Precipitation forecasts suggest the continuation of enhanced precipitation throughout the beginning of September across Central America. In Guatemala, rainfall accumulations ranging between 50-100mm are expected over many of the flood affected parts of the country. Similarly, many areas in Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua are likely to observe moderate to locally high rainfall 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.