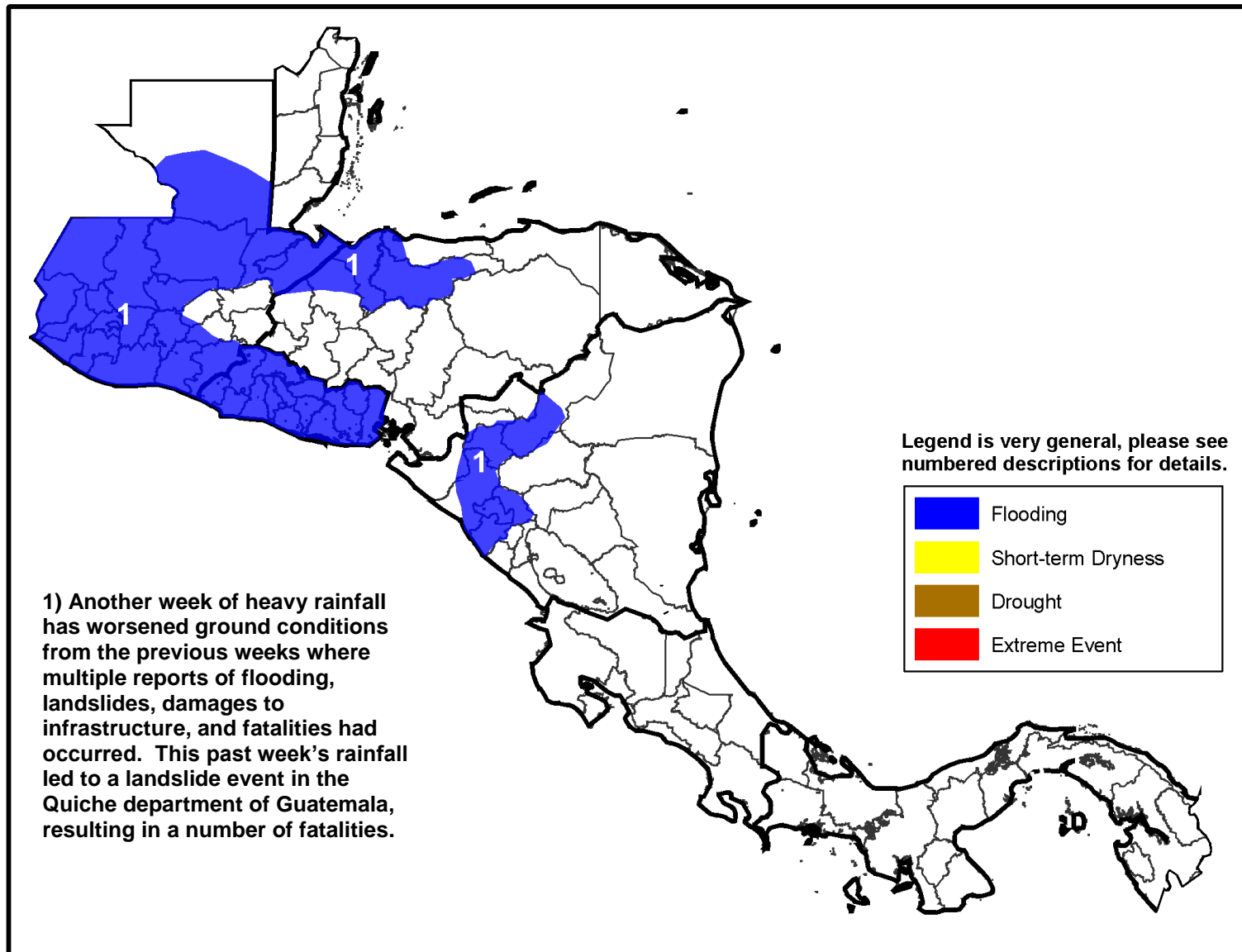


## The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America September 16 – September 22, 2010

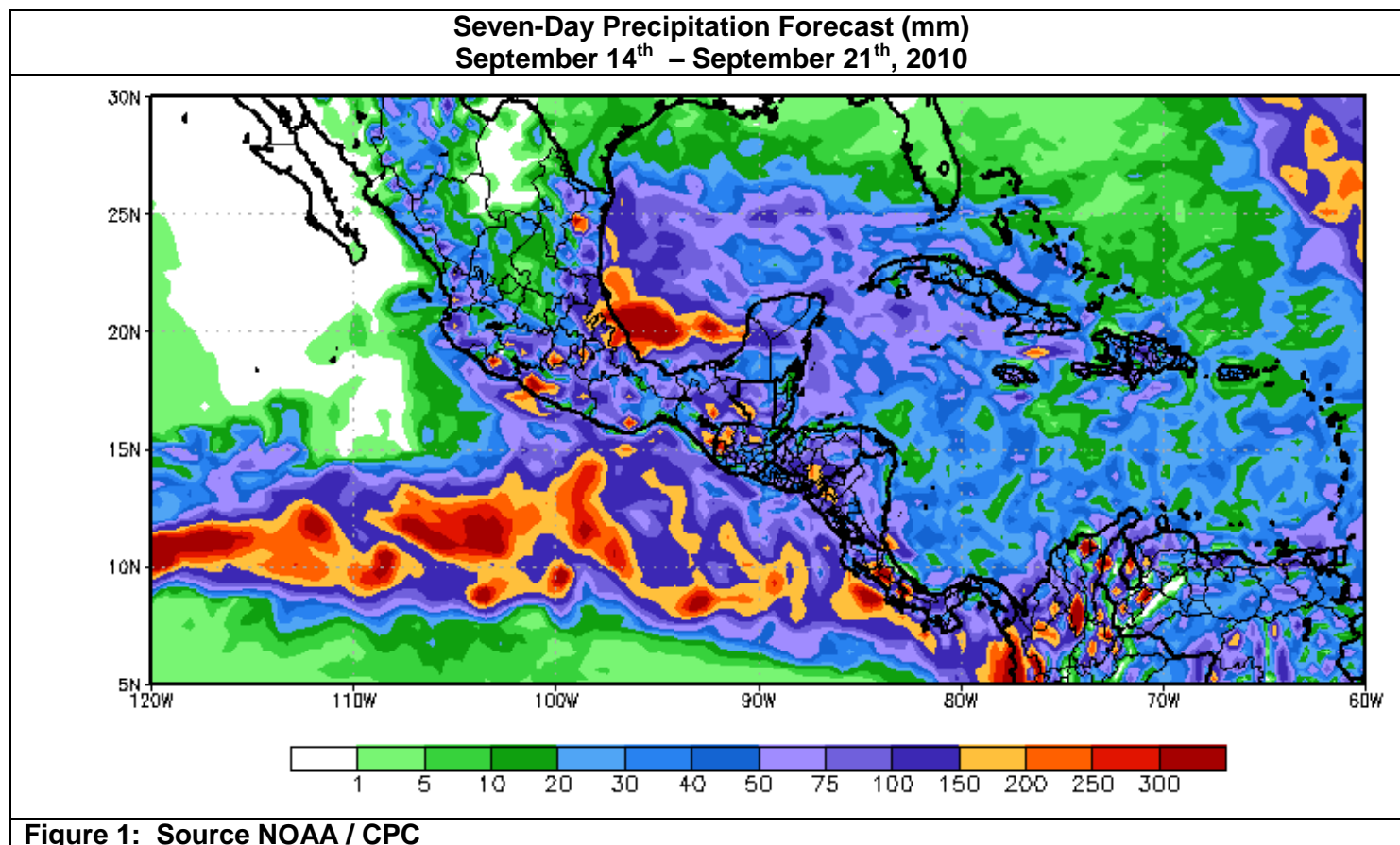
- A continuation of above-average rainfall exacerbates flooding conditions across many portions of Central America.



## Torrential rains continue in many locations across Central America triggering additional landslides in Guatemala.

Abundant rainfall (> 100 mm) was again observed across Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua during the past seven days. Following the heavy rains during previous week which resulted in flooding, landslides, damages to infrastructure, elevated river levels, and many fatalities, high rainfall totals during this past week caused an additional landslide and fatalities in the Quiche department of Guatemala. In Guatemala, the ample rainfall has continued to negatively affect the maize, banana and bean crops as well as damaged infrastructure, and displaced people. In Honduras, most of the country experienced greater than 40 mm of precipitation during the past week with locally heavy rainfall (> 100mm) across the Gracias a Dios and the Gulf of Fonseca region. Persistent amounts of above-average rainfall have harmfully impacted agriculture across Honduras. Heavy rainfall (> 75mm) was also observed along the Honduras border in Nicaragua with the highest totals (> 100mm) in the Chinandega, Esteli and Leon departments in western Nicaragua.

Rainfall is forecast to be heavy (> 75 mm) across most of Central America including areas already affected by flooding and landslides. Localized areas in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua could see rainfall totals in excess of 100 mm during the next week. The development of a tropical wave in the Caribbean may trigger localized flooding for coastal areas along the Pacific during the early part of the observational 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.