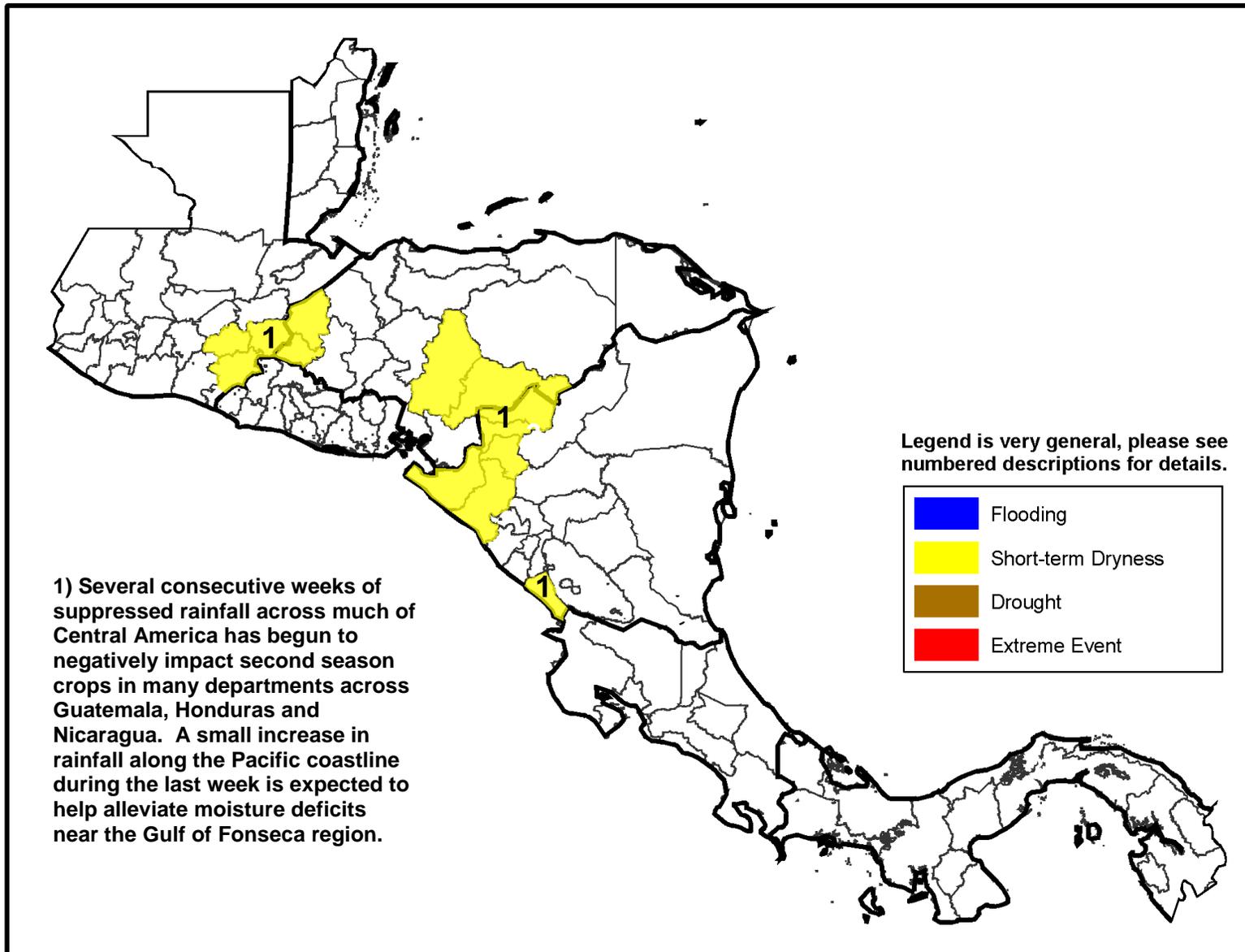


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America November 4 – November 10, 2010

- The return of more seasonable rainfall has helped to mitigate areas affected by short-term dryness, however below-average rainfall is expected to continue.



A short increase in Postrera rainfall may help to relieve prevailing dryness in Honduras and Nicaragua.

Compared to several consecutive weeks of prevailing dryness, higher amounts of precipitation were observed across much of Central America during the last seven days. In Guatemala, rainfall was generally moderate, with the heaviest totals (>50mm) observed in the southwest and in the Peten department. The distribution of high rainfall in northern Guatemala was associated with residual moisture from the passage of Tropical Storm Richard during late October. In El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, an increase in rainfall was observed along the Gulf of Fonseca region, with the highest totals received over areas that have been impacted by developing dryness. Despite the rainfall during the last week, many parts of southern Honduras, coastal El Salvador, and western Nicaragua have experienced nearly half of their normal rainfall over the last 30 days, which has led to insufficient ground moisture, and the degradation of second season crops. Precipitation forecasts do not suggest much change for the current rainfall distribution over Central America. Rainfall is expected to remain fair to moderate (10-50mm) over many parts of Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, with the heaviest rains centered over the southern Caribbean during the next seven days. Despite the increase in rainfall compared to previous weeks, precipitation is expected to remain below average over many local areas.

