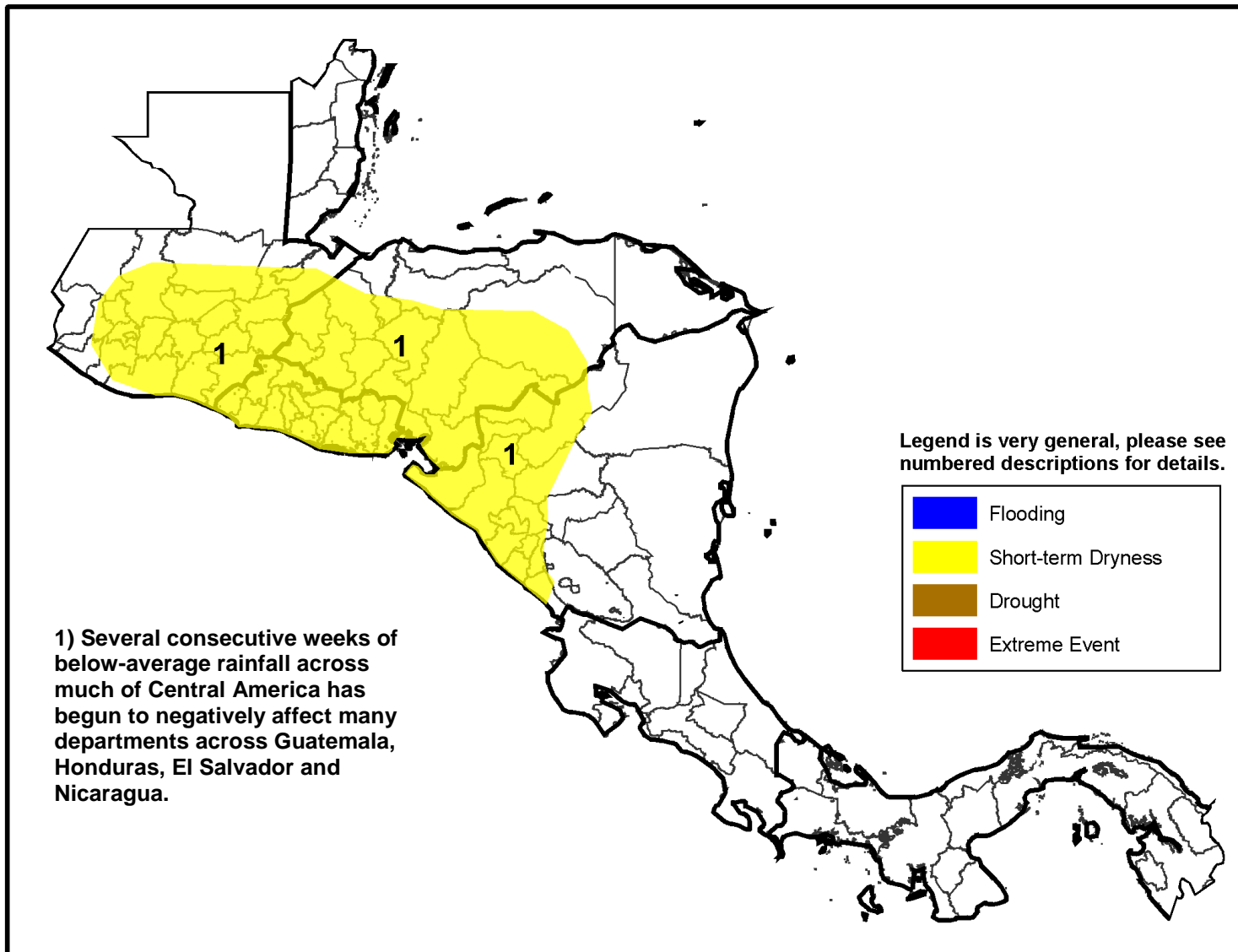


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America November 18 – November 24, 2010

- Little to rainfall during the last week strengthens moisture deficits across many local areas in Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.



An early end to the Postrera rains has worsened moisture conditions in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

During the last observation period, a continuation of suppressed precipitation was observed throughout many areas in Central America. The highest rainfall accumulations (20-30mm) were received across parts of coastal Costa Rica and Panama; however rainfall amounts generally remained less than 10mm throughout the majority of in the last seven days. Although precipitation normally decreases during this time of the year, nearly all of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua have received less than a quarter of their normal rainfall accumulation since the start of November. The apparent absence of rainfall in November suggests an early end to the Postrera rains season and has also worsened dryness that has already affected parts of eastern Guatemala, southern Honduras, and western Nicaragua in October. The extent of suppressed rainfall and deteriorating moisture conditions since October is expected to impede late season cropping activities across many local areas in Central America. Precipitation forecast suggest a slight recovery in rainfall during the next seven days. Rainfall accumulations are expected to range between 10-30mm, with the possibility of locally heavier rainfall throughout northern parts of Guatemala and Honduras.

