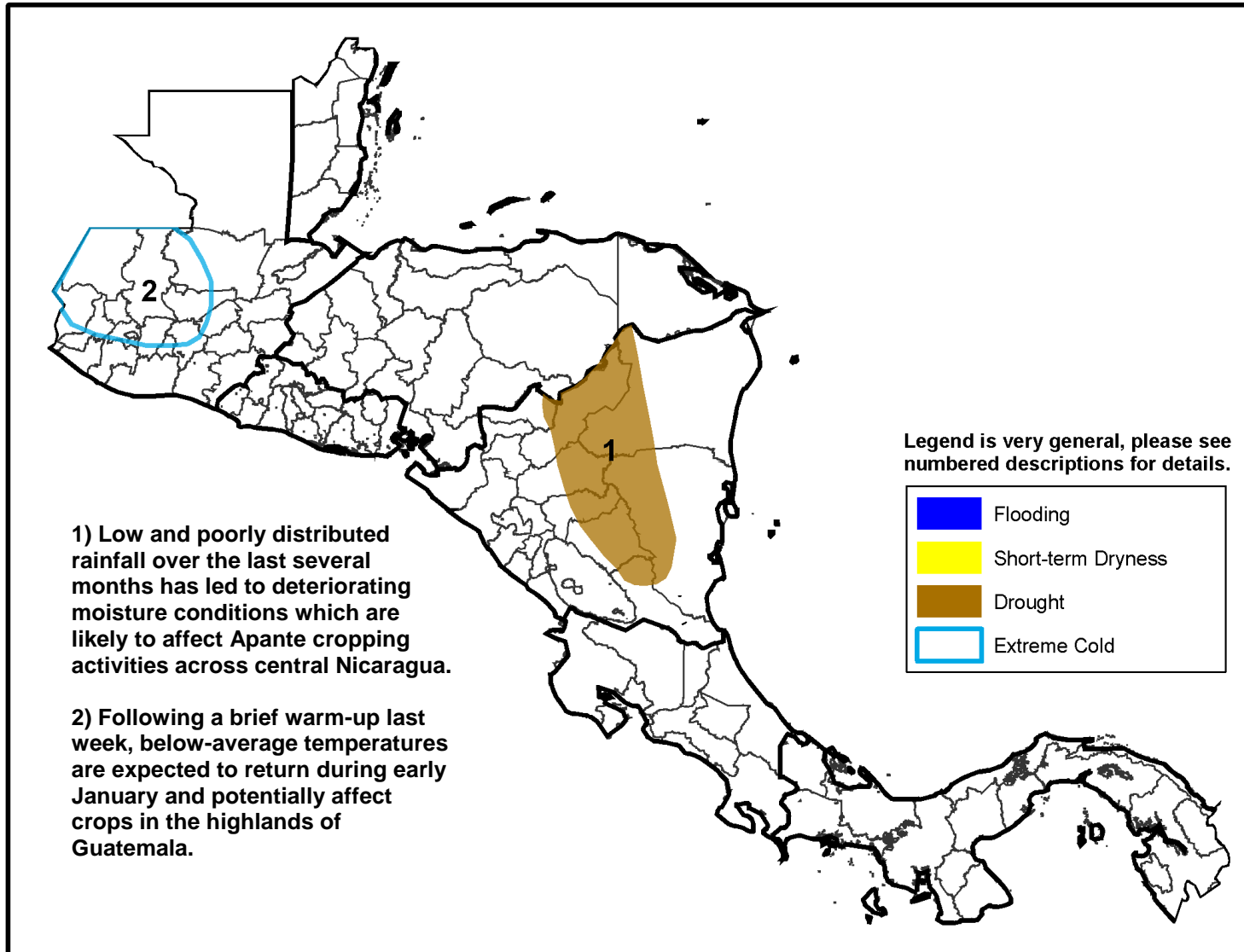


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America January 6 – January 12, 2011

- A decrease in rainfall and colder than average temperatures are expected over northern Central America during the next seven days.



Possible below freezing temperatures continue to threaten highlands of Guatemala during the next seven days.

During the last week, the return of prevailing easterly winds across the Caribbean resulted in an increase in rainfall across parts of Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Unseasonably high amounts of precipitation were observed in many local areas in northern Guatemala (>40mm), with more normal accumulations received across the Pacific coastline of Central America. Further south, heavy precipitation continued over the southern Caribbean, with high amounts of rainfall observed over the northern coastal areas of Costa Rica and Panama.

Precipitation forecasts suggest the return of drier conditions throughout parts of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador, with above-average rains continuing over parts of Costa Rica and Panama during the next week. A major wind shift across the Caribbean is expected to bring drier and cooler air into northern Central America, which may lead to below-freezing temperatures particularly in the highlands of Guatemala next week.

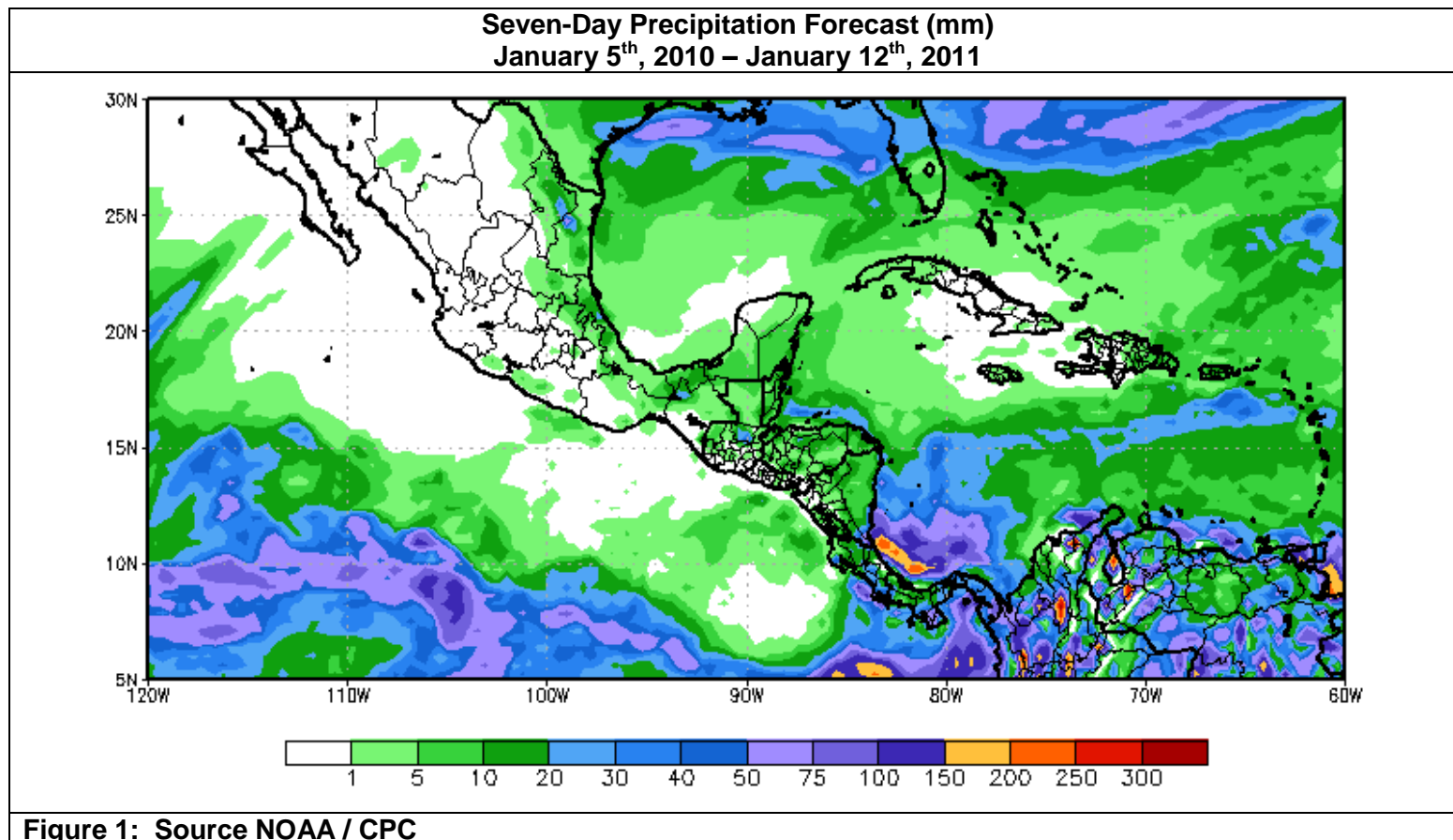


Figure 1: Source NOAA / CPC

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