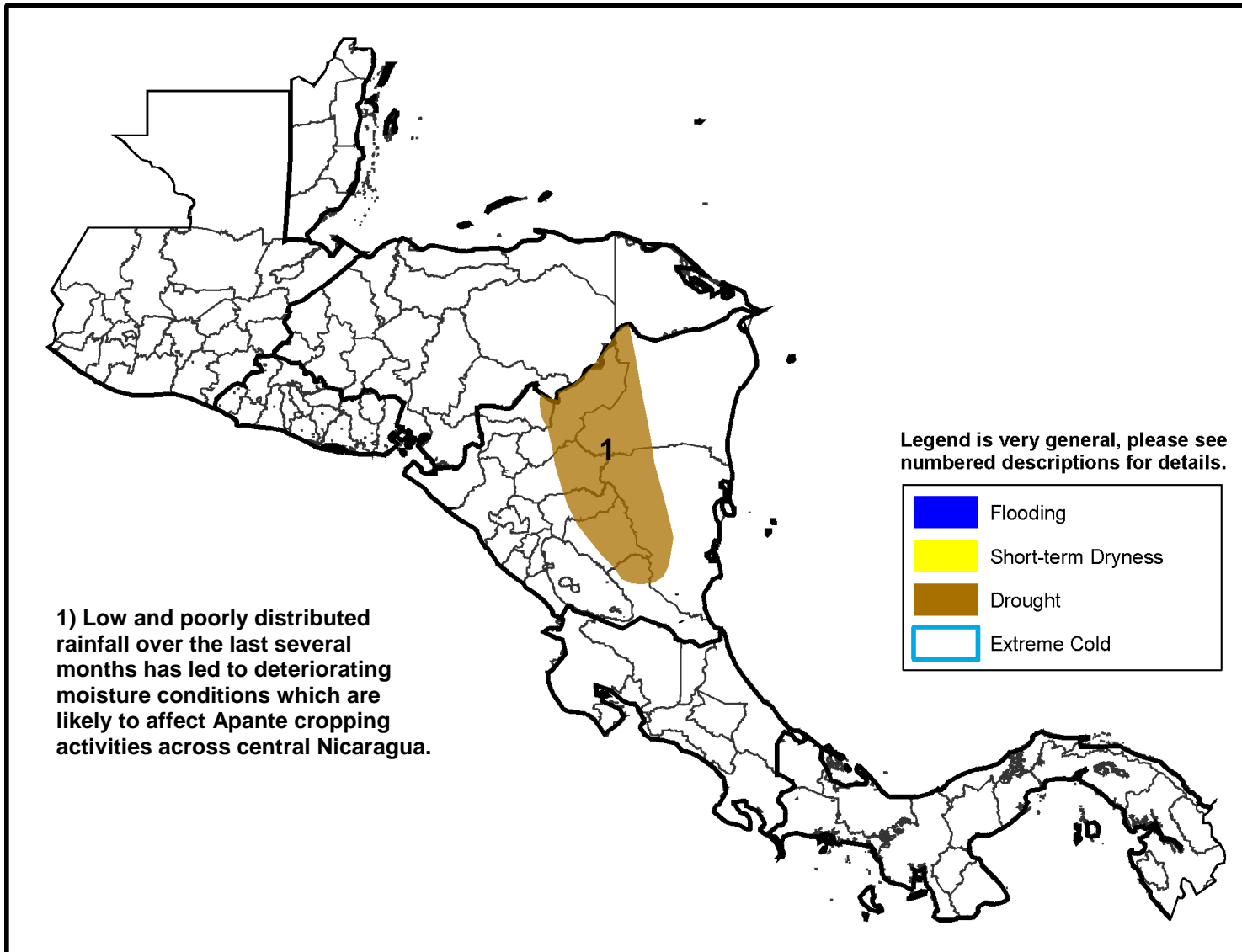


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America January 13 – January 19, 2011

- Increased amounts of precipitation are expected for many areas along Gulf of Honduras during the next seven days.



Enhanced winds and precipitation expected for many coastal areas along the Atlantic.

In the last seven days, a seasonable distribution of precipitation was received throughout Central America. In Guatemala, rainfall has been somewhat suppress while, with some local areas in southern Guatemala and El Salvador received amounts ranging between 5-15mm during the last week. In the southern Caribbean region, moderate to locally high rain amounts of precipitation continued over parts of southeastern Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. In the last 30 days, precipitation has been below average for many local areas along the Atlantic coastline of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Many of these areas have experienced rainfall deficits ranging between 100mm to 200mm since mid-December.

Precipitation forecasts suggest an increase in precipitation throughout Central America, with potentially heavy rainfall for many local areas along the Atlantic coastline during the next week. The highest rainfall accumulations (>50mm) are expected over northern Honduras, northern Guatemala, as well as northern Costa Rica, which is expected to alleviate short-term moisture deficits in these areas. Another round of northerly winds is also expected to bring cooler air into Central America, which may lead to below-freezing temperatures particularly in the highlands of Guatemala next week.

