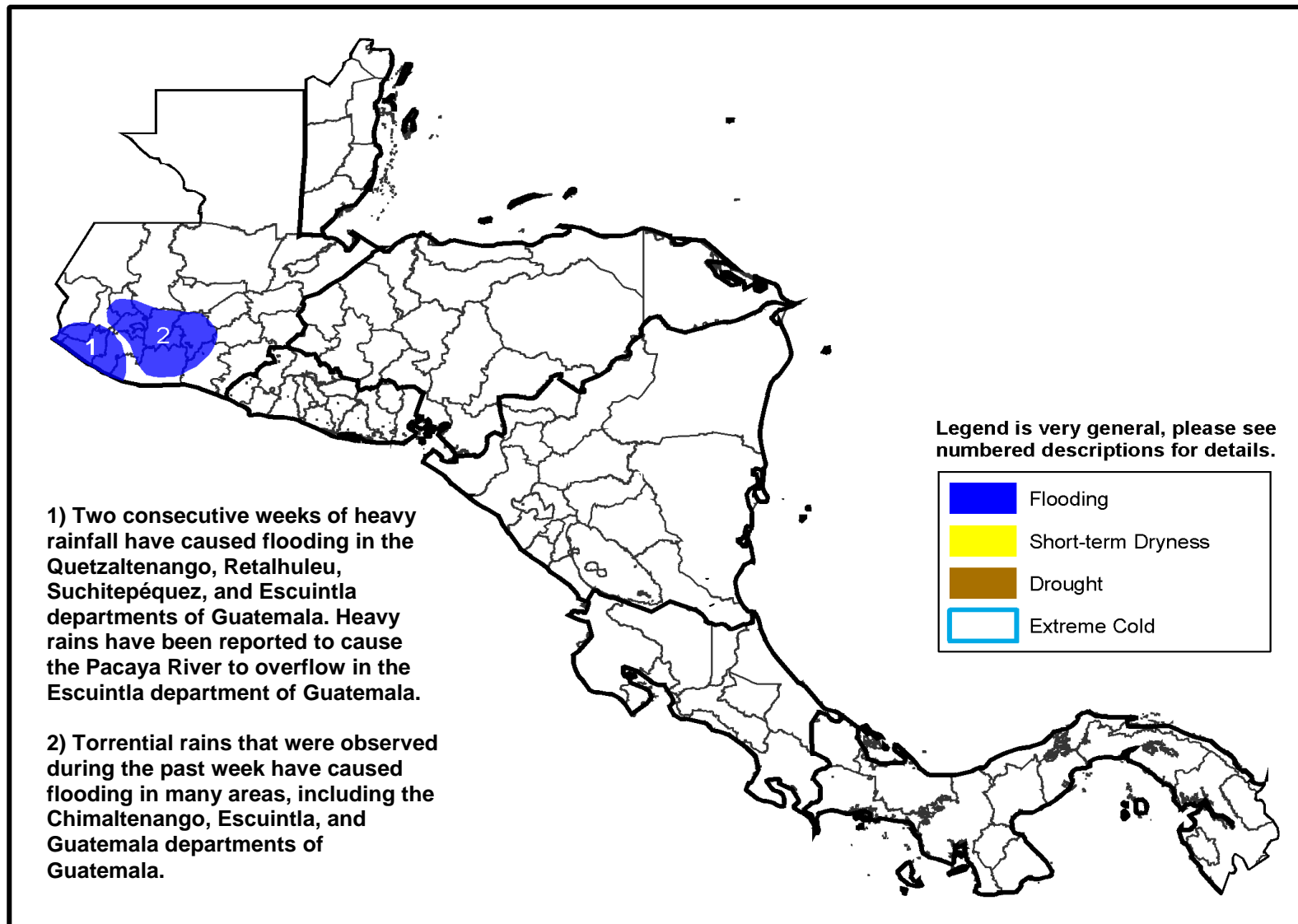


## The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America June 2 – June 8, 2011

- Heavy rains continued and have aggravated the flooding in southern Guatemala during the last seven days.
- Rainfall forecast suggests heightened risks for landslides and flooding in northern Central America during the next week.



## Heightened risk for landslides and flooding in southern Guatemala and northwestern Nicaragua during the next seven days.

The performance of the Primera rainfall season to date has been poor despite the return of seasonable rainfall during the last three weeks. Rainfall deficits exceeding 50mm have been expanding across much of Central America since the beginning of May, except over a few local areas in southern Guatemala, central Honduras, and northern Nicaragua. In southwestern Guatemala, copious (> 100mm) amounts of rain fell for the second week in the already saturated region, causing the Pacaya River to overflow its banks in the Escuintla department and affect several people, according to the Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres (CONRED) of Guatemala. Ample (> 50mm) amounts of rain were also observed in central Honduras, western Nicaragua, and the southern Caribbean during the last week. However, the poor spatial and temporal distributions of rainfall have already caused livestock deaths in the Olancho department of Honduras during the previous weeks.

Rainfall forecast over the upcoming week suggests heavy (> 50mm) rains along the Pacific and Atlantic basins of Central America, with the heaviest (> 150mm) rainfall in southwestern Guatemala and western Nicaragua. Torrential (> 150mm) rains that are forecast during the next seven days heighten risks for landslides and flooding in the already saturated grounds of southwestern Guatemala and northwestern Nicaragua. The ongoing seasonal rainfall is expected to relieve the dryness and benefit crops during their developing stages in many areas of Central America.

