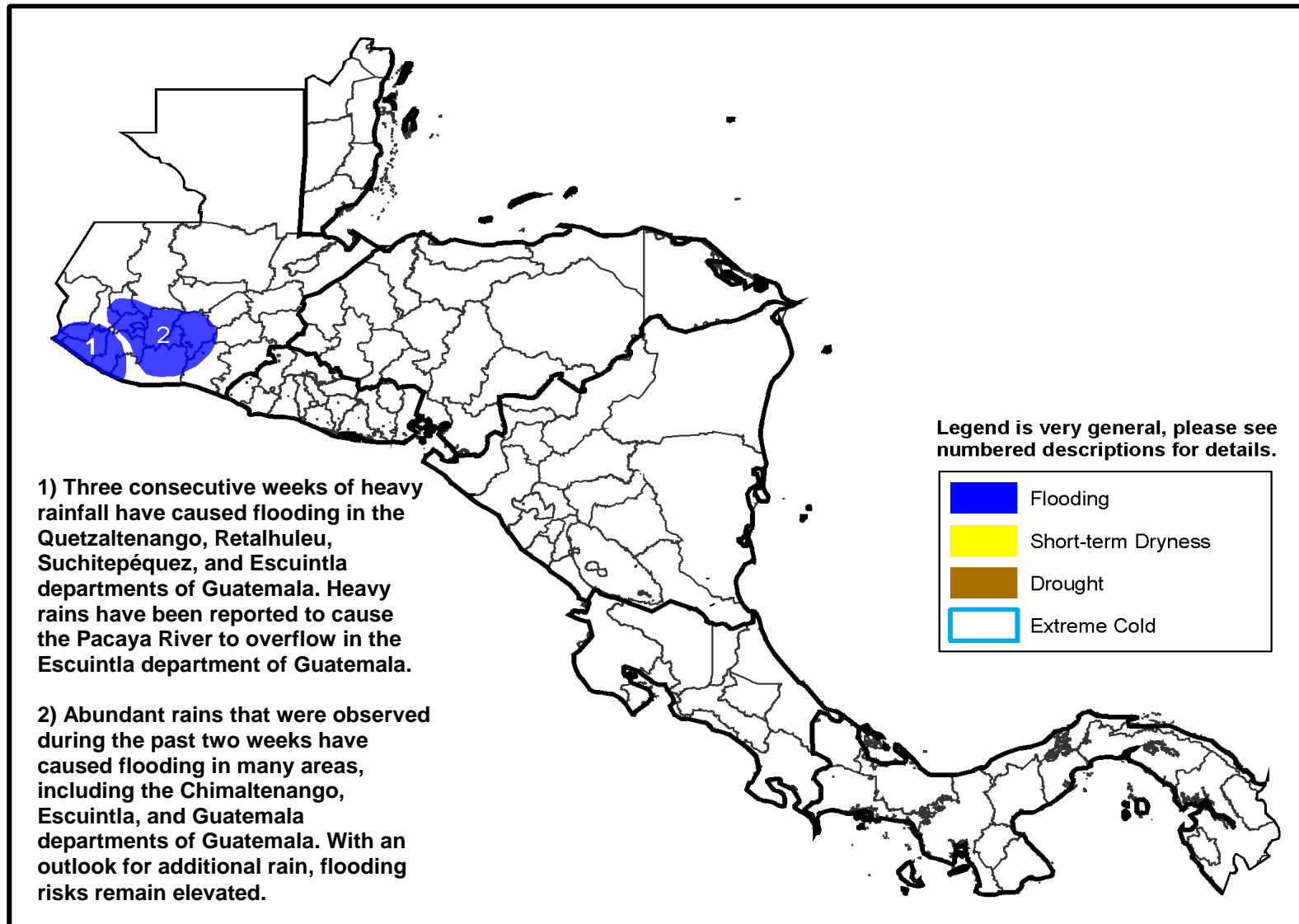


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America June 9 – June 15, 2011

- Abundant rain was observed across much of the southern Caribbean during the past week.
- Localized moderate to heavy rain was observed over recently flood-affected departments of Guatemala.



Above-average rain was observed across much of southern Central America while below-average rain fell further north.

The below-average beginning of the Primera rainfall season across northern Central America continued during the past week as light to moderate rain (5-30 mm) was observed over much of central and northern Guatemala and northern and western Honduras. The below-average rainfall during the past week has helped increase moderate to strong thirty-day rainfall deficits (20-200 mm) over central and northern Guatemala and western Honduras. In contrast, localized heavy rain (> 40 mm) was observed across portions of southwestern Guatemala which have been affected by flash and river flooding in previous weeks. Further south, widespread heavy rain (> 50 mm), was recorded across Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama and was associated with a broad area of disturbed weather over the southern Caribbean. The rains helped ease dryness concerns in portions of Costa Rica which have seen below-average rain since May.

For the next week, an increase in rainfall across dry portions of northern Central America is forecast as heavy rain (> 40 mm) is expected in much of Guatemala, Belize, Honduras and El Salvador. The abundant rain forecast over saturated areas in southern Guatemala will increase the risks for flooding while the increase in rain over northern Guatemala should improve moisture and cropping conditions. Across the southern Caribbean, rainfall is forecast to be moderate to heavy (> 30 mm) over most locations.

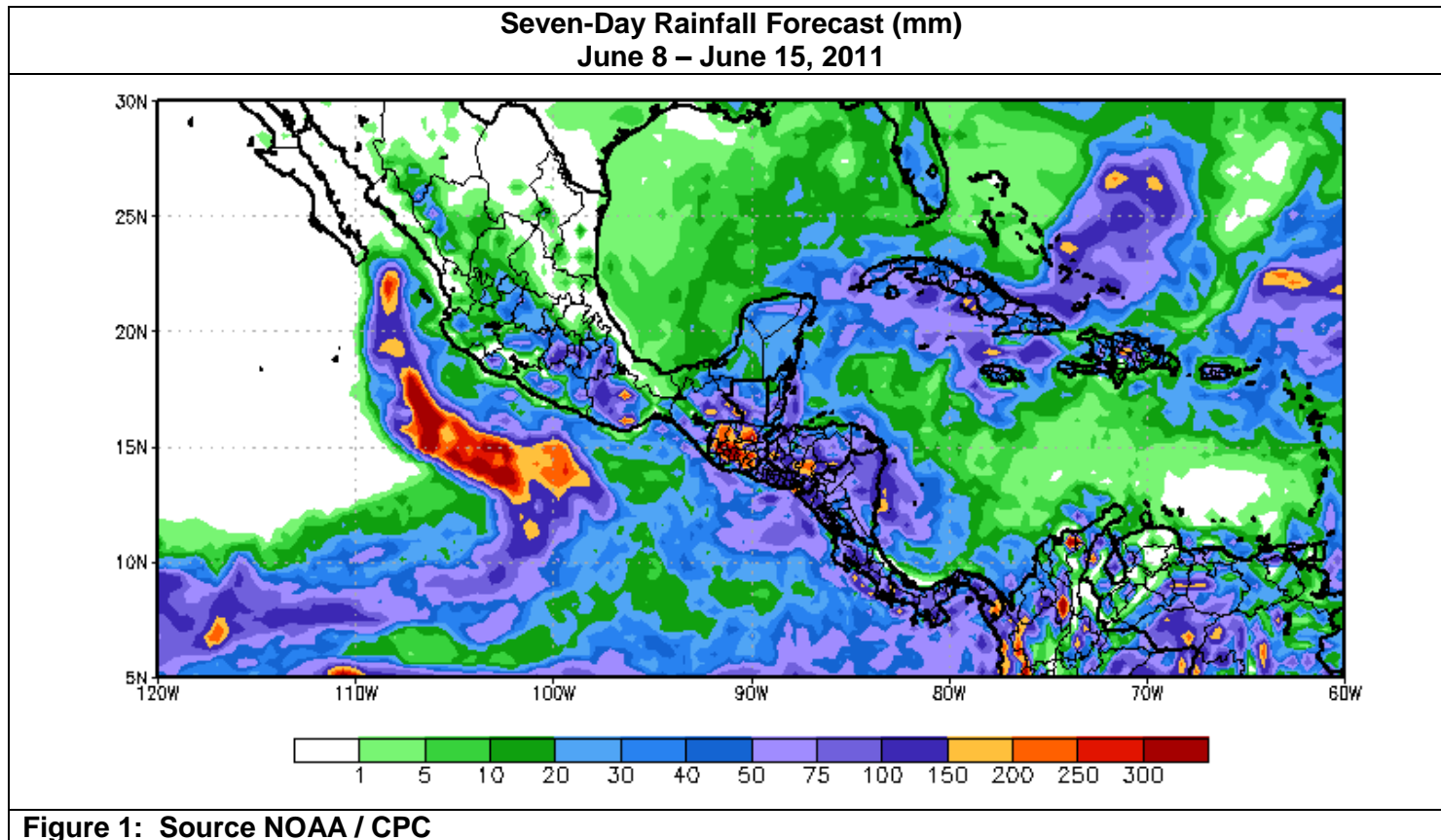


Figure 1: Source NOAA / CPC