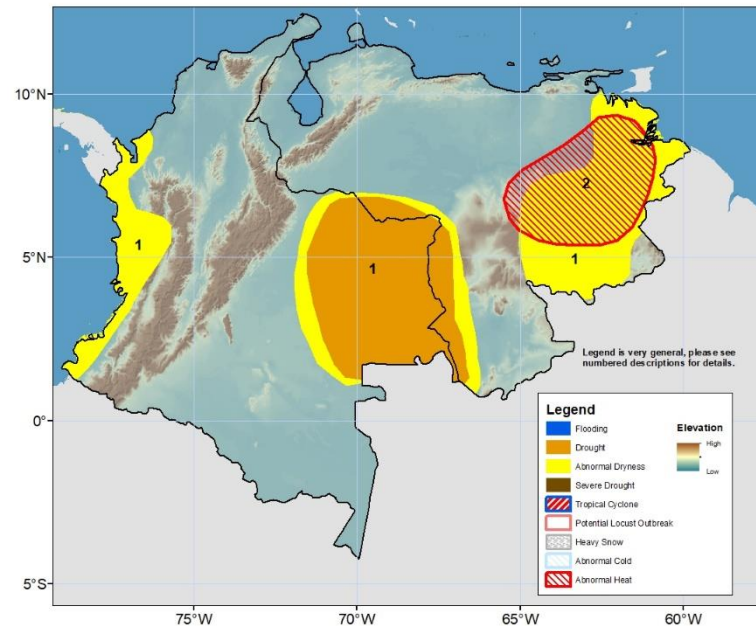


Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 1 February – 7 February 2024

Insufficient rainfall and abnormally-hot conditions over the past several weeks have led to dryness and drought in Northern South America.



During late January, drier weather patterns, with suppressed rainfall dominated over Northern South America. Due to consistent, below-average rainfall over the past few weeks, 30-day rainfall deficits increased in western and southern Colombia and eastern Venezuela. The largest moisture deficits exceeded 100 mm and were observed in western, southwestern, and eastern Colombia, and parts of southern and eastern Venezuela. Over the past 90 days, cumulative rainfall was below-average, with totals ranging between 5-25% of the average in parts of northern and eastern Colombia and northern Venezuela. Abnormal dryness has been posted over the dry portions of Colombia and Venezuela, where 30-day rainfall deficits exceeded 50 mm (**Polygons 1**). The prolonged, insufficient rainfall has already adversely impacted agriculture and livestock in many local areas in Colombia, according to reports. Additionally, well above-average temperatures have exacerbated dryness in many parts of Northern South America over the past several weeks.

For next week, moderate to heavy rainfall is predicted across Colombia, northwestern, and southern Venezuela, with higher-than-average rainfall of 50-150 mm, expected in Colombia, which could help relieve some of the abnormal dryness but also could trigger flash floods over some local areas in the region. Meanwhile, maximum temperatures are forecast to average 35-40°C and rise 2-6°C above the mean in eastern Venezuela, potentially affecting vulnerable people in the region.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product takes into account long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

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