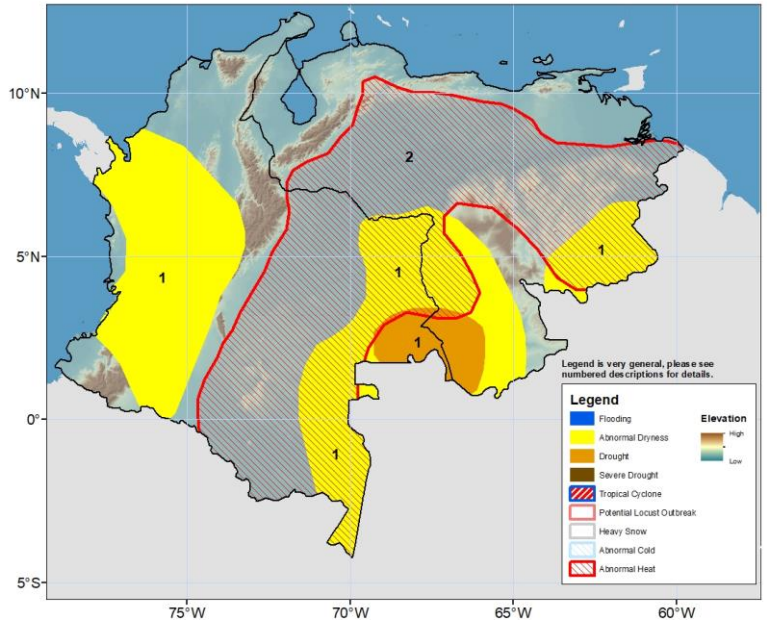
Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
25 April – 1 May 2024

Dry and abnormally hot conditions have persisted in parts of Northern South America.



During mid-April, heavy and above-average rains fell in western and west-central Colombia and southwestern and southern Venezuela. In contrast, reduced and below-average rains occurred over southeastern and northeastern Colombia and eastern Venezuela. Over the past 30 days, abnormally dry conditions (**Polygons 1**), which have resulted from an uneven rainfall distribution persisted in west-central, southern, and eastern Colombia and southern and eastern Venezuela despite a recent increase in rainfall in the region. Over the past 90 days, moderate to large negative rainfall anomalies continued in west-central and southeastern Colombia and southern and eastern Venezuela. The lack of rainfall has already negatively impacted the agricultural and energy sectors in Venezuela, according to reports. The latest Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) products indicated poor and below-average vegetation conditions in northern, west-central, and eastern areas in Colombia, and northern Venezuela as a response to the past few months' situation with deficient rainfall and above-average temperatures.

During the next week, above-average rainfall is forecasted for Colombia and western and southern Venezuela, which should help erode accumulated moisture deficits and replenish soil moisture in the dry portions of the region. In contrast, near-average to below-average rainfall is predicted in northern Venezuela. Meanwhile, abnormally hot conditions are predicted for central and southern Colombia and north-central Venezuela as above-average maximum temperatures are forecasted to continue in the region (**Polygon 2**).

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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