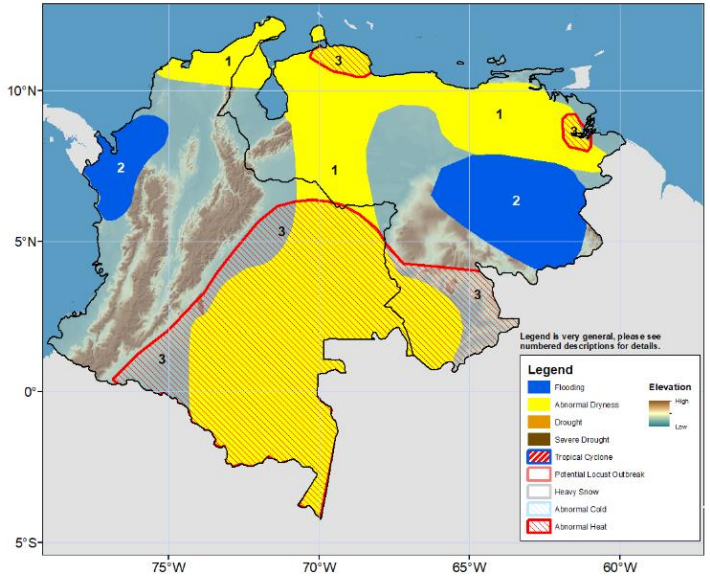
Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
12 September – 18 September 2024

Abnormal Heat is likely to continue in most parts of the region, and are expanded over northern Venezuela



During the past 7 days, heavy rainfall in excess of 100 mm prevailed in portions northwestern Colombia and eastern Venezuela, while southern Colombia also received up to 150 mm of heavy rain. However, rainfall deficits of 25 mm to 200 mm dominated the region. On the other hand, places in northwestern and southern Colombia and western Venezuela continued to experience rainfall superpluses between 25-200 mm. The erratic and below-average rainfall during the last 30 days has led to a placement and maintenance of abnormal dryness polygon in the southern and eastern parts of Colombia and the Lara, Portuguesa, and Falcon states of Venezuela (**Polygons 1**). Furthermore, during the last 90 days, portions of northern Venezuela, including the States of Falcon, Lara, Anzoátegui, and Monagas, showed cumulative rainfall deficits between 5-25 percent of the average. The inadequate rainfall during the last several months has led to poor vegetation conditions, particularly in the Venezuelan states of Flacon, Lara, and Monagas and in the southwestern region of Colombia.

The forecast suggests moderate to heavy rainfall (50-150 mm) in northwestern Colombia and eastern parts of Venezuela during the following week. Rains will be suppressed for almost all of the region, where the larger deficits are expected in the Pacific region of Colombia, southeastern Colombia, and western and southern Venezuela. Although the rainfall amounts are largely below average in most parts of Colombia and Venezuela, a continuation of moderate rainfall in already saturated soil may lead to flooding and landslides in these areas (**Polygons 2**). The forecast suggests that temperatures reach up to 40ºC in portions of southwestern Colombia, southern, northern and eastern Venezuela, with positive anomalies that range from 1ºC to 6 ºC (**Polygons 3**).

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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