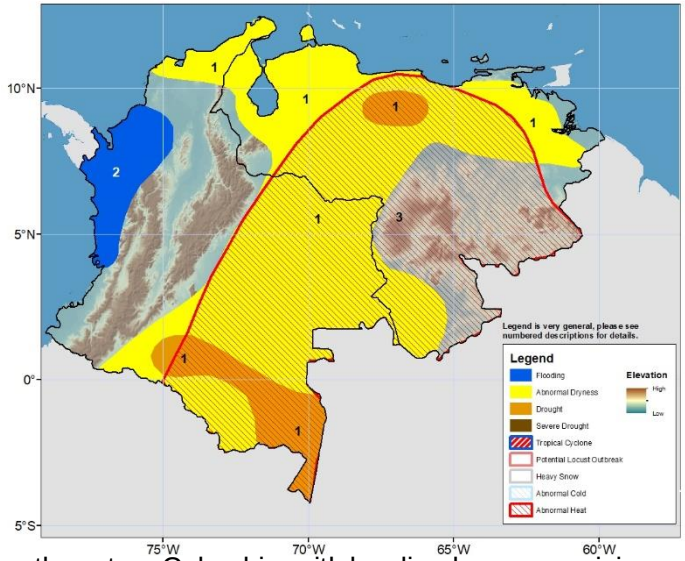
# Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook
# For USAID / FEWS-NET
# 31 October – 6 November 2024

**Flooding risks continue for northwest Colombia; while dry and hot conditions have resulted in drought in southern Colombia and northern Venezuela.**




Last week, heavy rainfall (> 75 mm) occurred over northwestern Colombia, with localized areas receiving up to 200 mm, resulting in localized flooding. However, the majority of the region recorded light-to-no precipitation (<25 mm), which led to rainfall deficits between 25 – 100 mm. Over the last 30 days, below-average precipitation continued, warranting abnormal dryness over much of eastern and southern Colombia and western and northern Venezuela (**Polygon 1**). Furthermore, over the last 90 days, dry signal has been the dominant feature over the region, with portions of northern Venezuela and southern Colombia noting cumulative rainfall accounting for only between 5-25% of the average. The extended period of dryness and above-average temperatures has resulted in extremely low soil moisture levels, poor vegetation health, and numerous forest fires over areas of the region. Consequently, droughts have been issued for northern Venezuela and southern Colombia (**Polygon 1**).

Next week, rainfall forecasts predict moderate to locally heavy rainfall in northwestern Colombia, with regions near the coast expecting to receive up to 200 mm of rainfall. Since this region has saturated soil, it is at risk for flooding and landslides (**Polygon 2)**. Eastern and southern Colombia and Venezuela are expected to receive moderate and below-average rainfall. Meanwhile, maximum temperatures are forecasted to range from 30 – 40 °C across eastern and southern Colombia and much of Venezuela. Central Colombia and Venezuela could experience positive maximum temperature anomalies of 2 – 4°C, with the largest departures (4 – 6 °C) expected over southern Colombia. Hybrid temperature-heat index tools are indicating temperatures above the 90$^{th}$ percentile for central and eastern Colombia and central and southern Venezuela. These abnormally high temperatures could lead to hazardous condition (**Polygon 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.**

**Questions or comments about the hazards outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov**