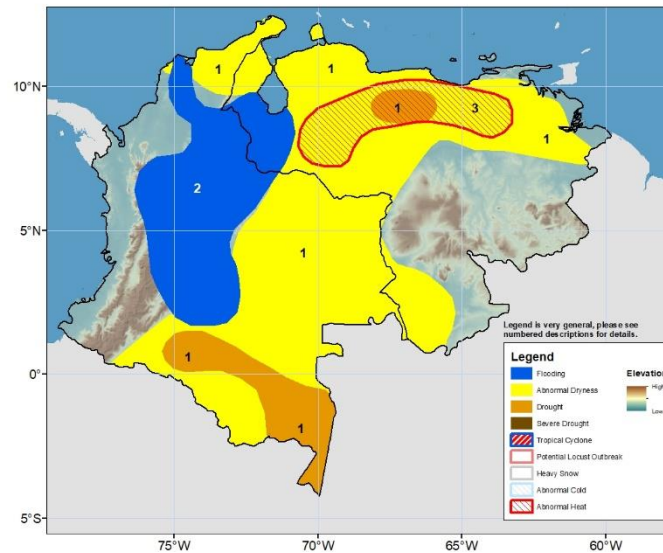


Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 21 November – 27 November 2024

Flooding risks continue for the central and northern Andes Mountain regions of Colombia



Last week, heavy rainfall (75 - 150 mm) continued over parts of central and northern Colombia. This has resulted in significant destructive flooding, including along the Atrato, San Juan, and Baudó rivers in Chocó region. Hundreds of thousands of people are affected. Conversely, portions of western and northeastern Colombia, and northern Venezuela recorded lighter or no precipitation (<10 mm), which led to rainfall deficits widely between 10 mm and 50 mm and more than 100mm along Colombia's Pacific coast. 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, a dry signal has been the dominant feature over the region, with portions of northern Venezuela and southern Colombia noting cumulative rainfall accounting for only 5-25% of the average. The extended period of dryness and above-average temperatures has resulted in low soil moisture levels, poor vegetation health, and numerous forest fires over areas of the region, especially in northeastern Colombia and northern Venezuela. Consequently, droughts have been issued for northern Venezuela and southern Colombia (**Polygon 1**).

Next week, models predict heavy rainfall (75-200 mm) from the Andes Mountain regions to the Pacific Coast in Colombia (**Polygon 2**). This will reinforce the risk of flooding and landslides over already saturated soil. Northwestern Venezuela is expected to receive heavy rainfall (>75 mm) as well. Moderate rainfall between 50 and 75 mm is expected in southern and eastern Colombia and southern Venezuela, with light rain in northeastern Venezuela. Meanwhile, maximum temperatures are forecasted to range from 30 – 35°C across eastern and southern Colombia and most of Venezuela. Parts of northern Venezuela should experience positive maximum temperature anomalies of 2 – 4°C. The persistent abnormally hot temperatures could lead to strenuous conditions (**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.

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