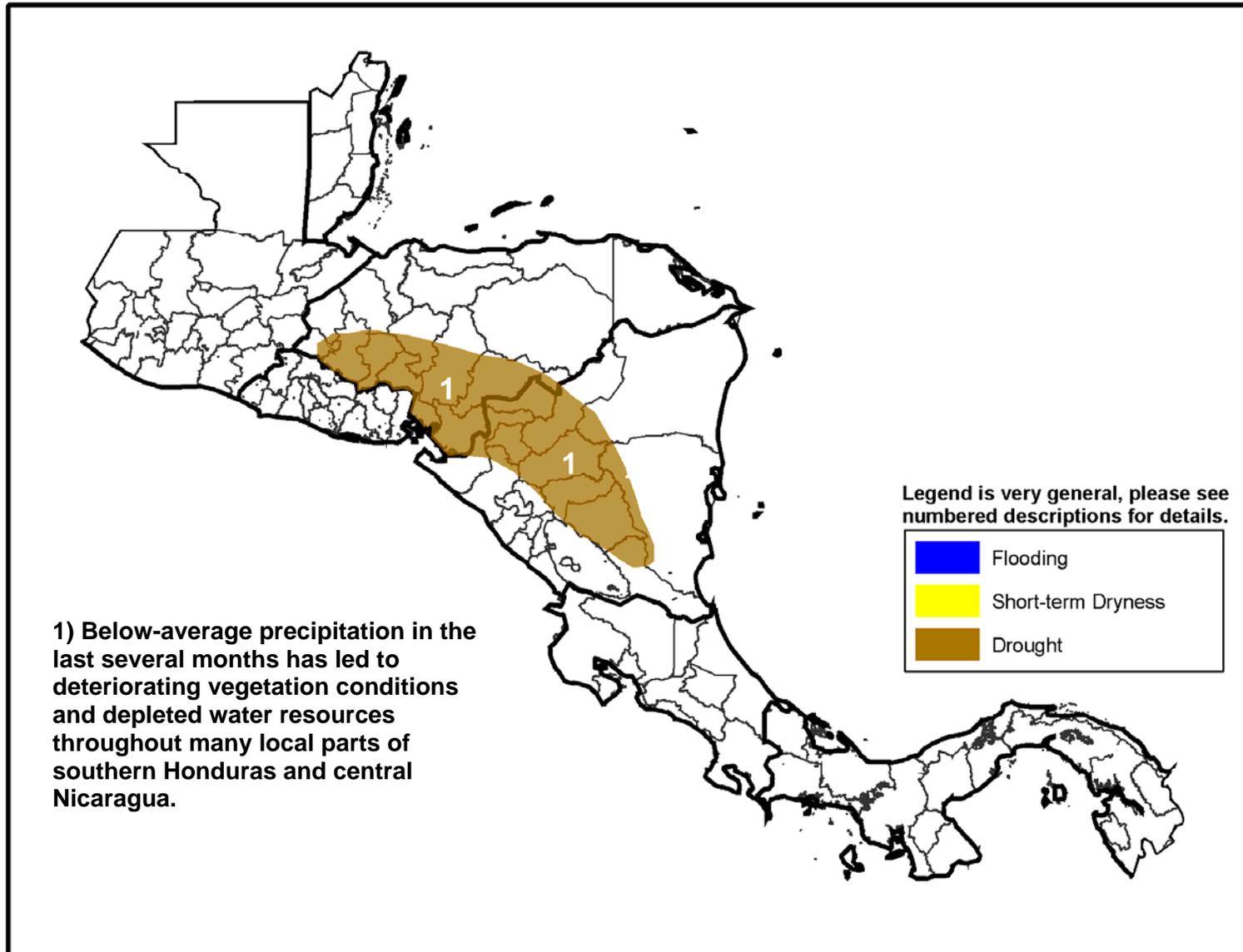


The USAID MFEWS Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Central America April 8 – April 14, 2010

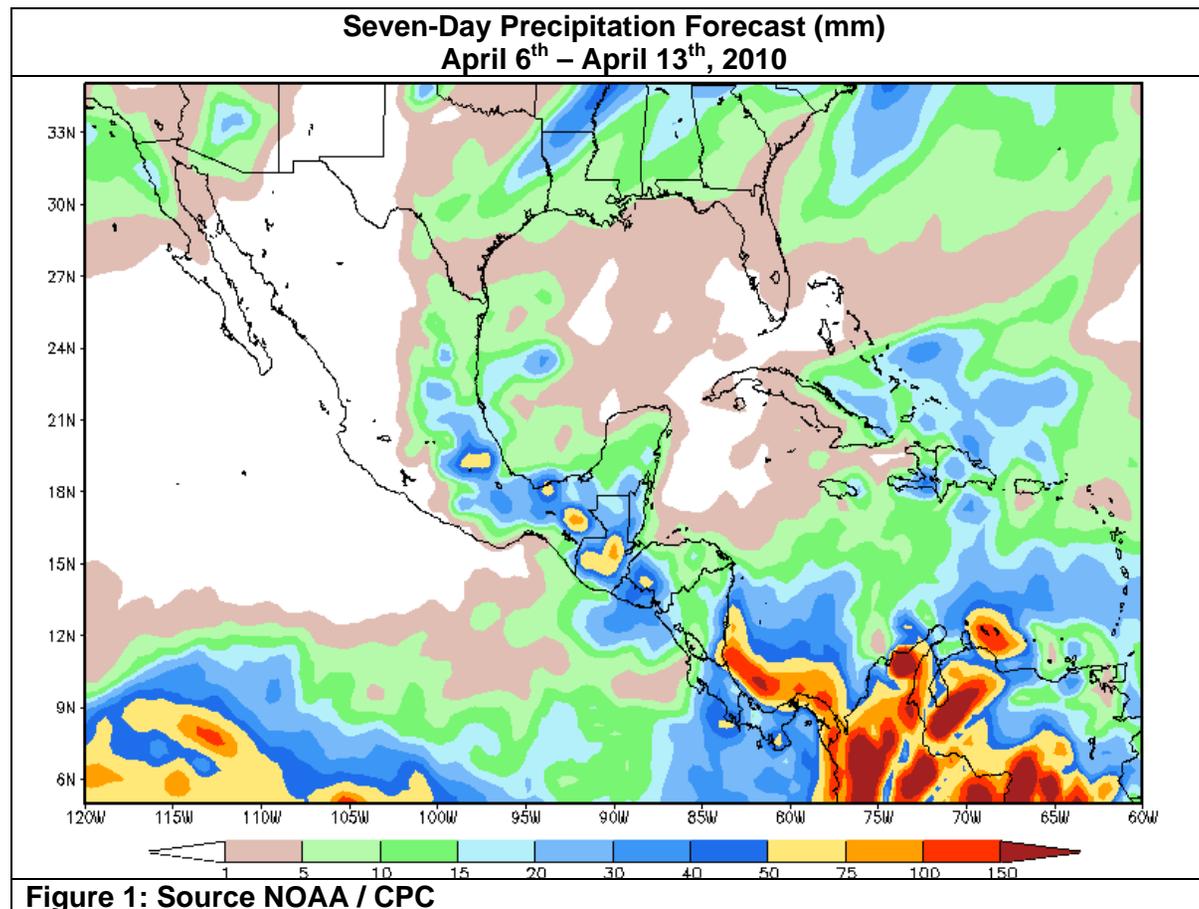
- Light rainfall was received across many parts of Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, with locally heavier totals observed in parts of Costa Rica and Panama during the last seven days.
- Poor rainfall has resulted in prolonged moisture shortages throughout portions of Honduras and Nicaragua.



Apante dryness affects southern portions of Honduras and Nicaragua.

In the last seven days, minimal amounts of rainfall were received throughout many portions of Guatemala, Honduras, Salvador and Nicaragua, with more locally moderate rainfall (25-50 mm) observed in parts along the border between Costa Rica and Panama. During the Apante season from December 2009 to April 2010, precipitation remained mostly below average across the Central America domain, leading to moisture shortages and deteriorating vegetation conditions in parts of Honduras, Nicaragua, and eastern Panama. In southern Honduras, the lack of Apante rainfall during has reportedly resulted in depleted water resources, and significant losses in crop production in the departments of La Paz, Comayagua, Francisco Morazan, El Paraiso, Valle and Choluteca.

Precipitation forecasts suggest an increase in rainfall across the Central America domain, which is likely to bring relief for many of areas affected by dryness during the Apante season. Rainfall in excess of 50mm are expected for areas in the southern Caribbean, as well as moderate to higher totals for parts of central Guatemala, and southern Honduras (**Figure 1**).



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