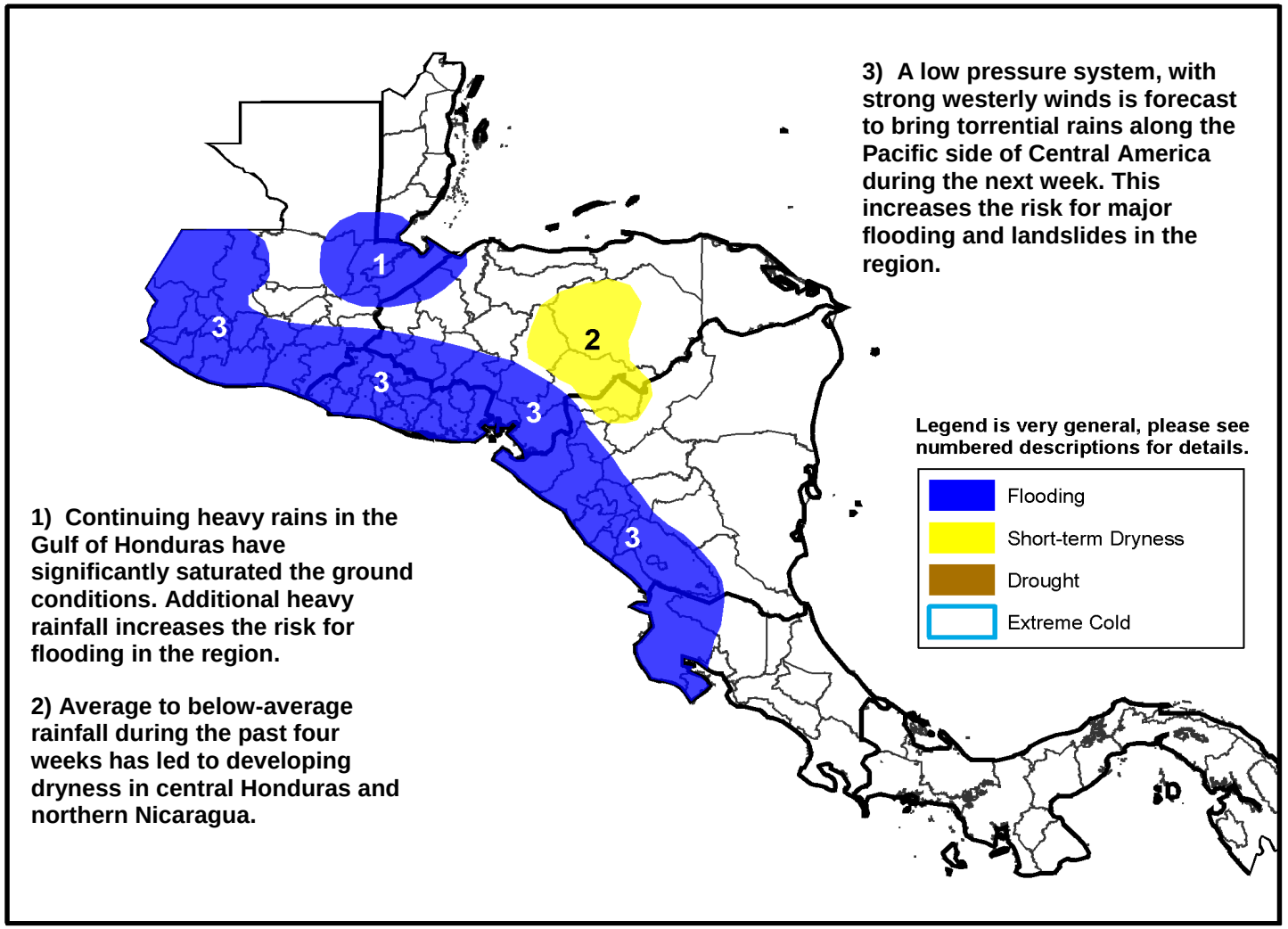
Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
July 14 – July 20, 2011

- **Heavy rains were received over Central America, causing infrastructure damages in Guatemala and Honduras during the past seven days.**
- **Torrential rains are expected along the Pacific sides of Central America during the next week and therefore increase the risk for flooding.**



Tropical wave activities are expected to continue and could cause major flooding and landslides during the next week.

Since the beginning of the month, above-average rainfall has been received across much of Central America due to enhanced tropical wave activities in the region. During the past week, abundant (> 50mm) rains prevailed across much of Central America, including the already-saturated regions of the Gulf of Fonseca, Gulf of Honduras, and the southern Caribbean Pacific coastlines. In contrast, light to moderate (10-30mm) rains were observed over the Olancho and El Paraiso departments of central Honduras and parts of Nueva Segovia, Madriz, and Jinotega departments of northern Nicaragua during the past seven days. As a result, rainfall surpluses prevailed over many regions of Central America, while moisture deficits ranging from 20 to 100mm persisted in central Honduras and northern Nicaragua during the past thirty days.

During the next seven days, tropical wave activity is expected to continue over Central America. It could lead to the development of a low pressure system across the Gulf of Fonseca, which will likely to bring torrential (> 150mm) rains along the Pacific Basin of Central America. This, therefore, increases the risk for major flooding and landslides in many regions. Copious (> 150mm) amounts of rain are also expected in the Gulf of Honduras region and the Atlantic coastlines of Nicaragua and Costa Rica during the next week. Central Honduras, and portions of northern Nicaragua, however, is likely to receive moderate (20-40mm) rains, which could sustain the dryness observed in the region during the next seven days.

Seven-Day Rainfall Forecast (mm)
July 13 – July 20, 2011

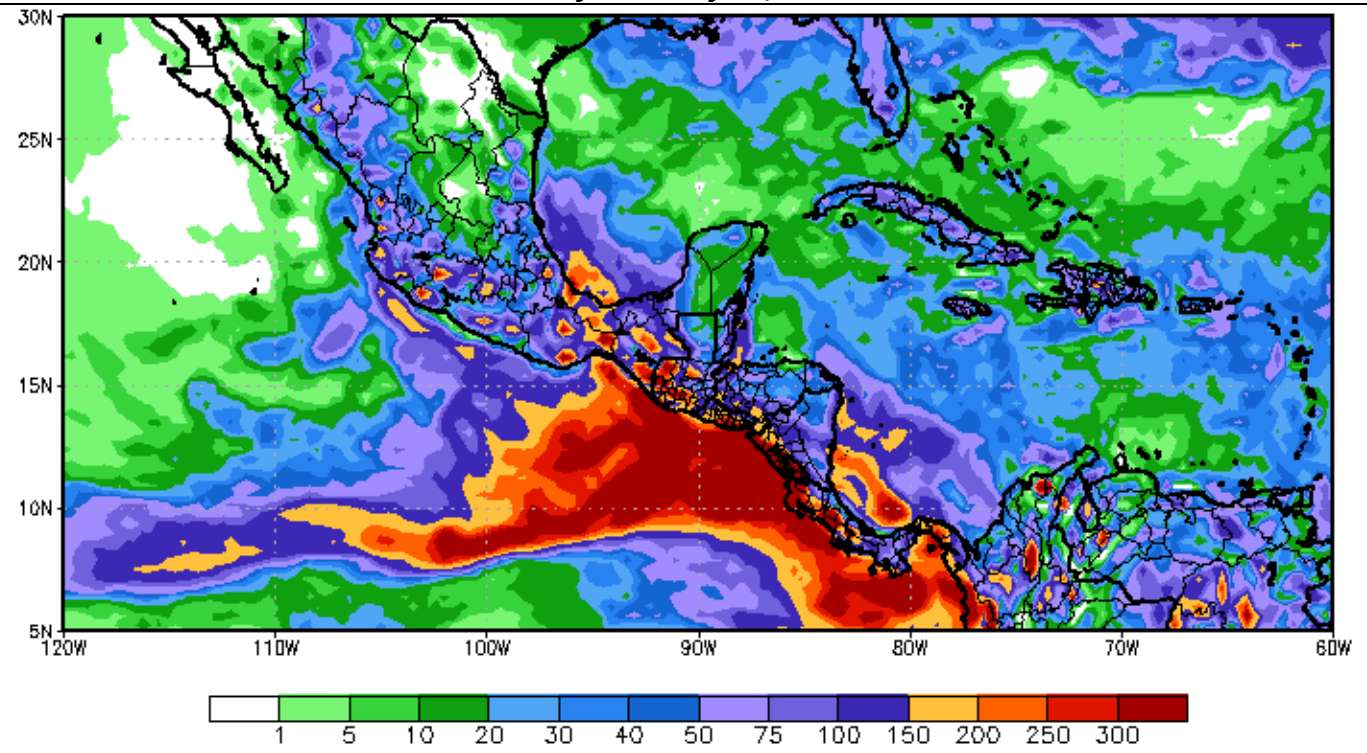


Figure 1: Source NOAA / CPC

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