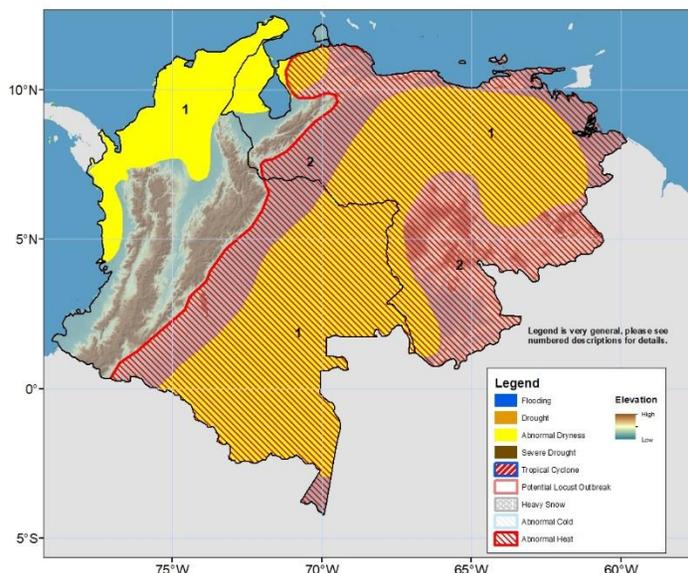


## Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 28 September – 4 October 2023

**Dry and hot conditions continue to dominate much of Colombia and Venezuela.**



During the last week, localized rainfall totals exceeding 100 mm were observed in the Pacific and Caribbean, and Amazonian basin regions of Colombia, as well as central Venezuela. Central Colombia and northwestern Venezuela observed rainfall totals of 25-75 mm. However, the majority of the region observed dryer-than-average rainfall conditions (25-100 mm anomalies) during the last week. The largest deficits occurred in northern Colombia. Only parts of southern Colombia and central Venezuela received above-average rainfall. In Colombia, rainfall deficits and irregular rainfall over the La Guajira department have led to deteriorating field conditions since the beginning of the year. Farmers did not sow the first crop cycle in this region, and water access for human and animal consumption is significantly limited. Due to the continuing and expanding rainfall deficits in the seasonal period, significant vegetation stress, SPI less than  $-1.5\sigma$  below the mean, abnormal dryness polygons are placed in areas in Colombia's Pacific and Caribbean regions, the southern amazon region, the Amazon border between Colombia and Venezuela, as well as central and northern Venezuela (**Polygons 1**).

During the next week, most of the Northern-South America region is expected to continue to receive dryer-than-average conditions (totals less than 50 mm total). The largest deficits are expected across central and southern Venezuela as well as central and eastern Colombia. Most of the region can expect 10-50 mm of rain, although heavy rainfall in excess of 75-100 mm is forecast in northern and western Colombia.

During last week, maximum temperatures were 2-4°C warmer than average in portions of northern and western Colombia and eastern parts of Venezuela. During the Outlook period, maximum temperatures will likely be between 30°C and 40°C and warmer than average by 2-6°C in most of the region excepting western Colombia. As a result, a large abnormal heat hazard is placed over a large part of the region (**Polygons 2**).

**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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