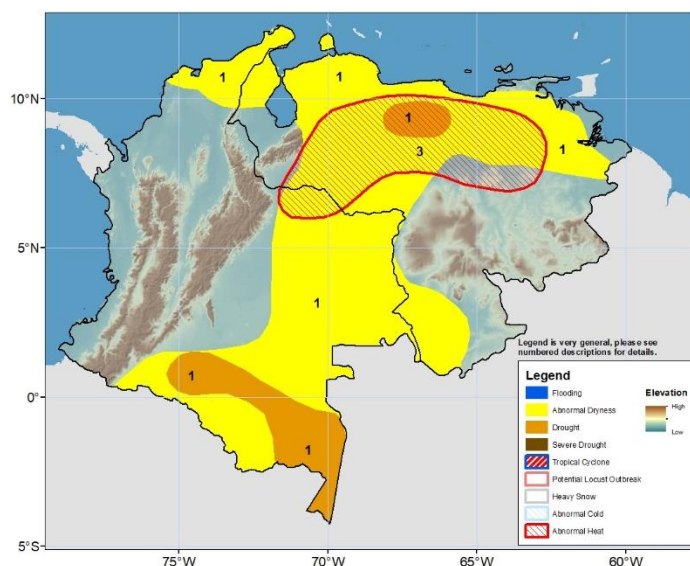


## Climate Prediction Northern South America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 12 – 18 December 2024

### Abnormal heat continues over northern Venezuela.



Over the last 7 days, heavy rainfall (75 – 200 mm) fell along Colombia's Pacific coast. Localized moderate rains fell through Colombia's Andes mountain region, while light rains were scattered about southern Colombia, and southern Venezuela. Recent heavy rains resulted in significant flooding from which recovery is still occurring, especially around the Bogota region. Conversely, portions of northernmost and central Colombia, and much of Venezuela recorded no precipitation last week. The pattern resulted in much of the region having rainfall deficits of 10 – 50 mm. Over the last 30 days, below-average precipitation widely persisted, warranting abnormal dryness over much of eastern and southern Colombia and western and northern Venezuela (**Polygon 1**). Some improvement has been observed in central Colombia. 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 an enhanced number of wild fires over areas of the region, especially in northern Venezuela. Consequently, drought hazards remain for northern Venezuela and southern Colombia (**Polygon 1**).

Next week, models predict that heavy rainfall (75 – 150 mm) will continue in western Colombia. Outside of dry conditions in north-central Venezuela, light to moderate precipitation (10 – 75 mm) is expected over the rest of the region which results in much of the region experiencing rainfall deficits of 5-30 mm. Maximum temperatures are forecasted to range from 30 – 35°C across northern and southern portions of Venezuela. Parts of northern Venezuela should experience positive maximum temperature anomalies of 2 – 6°C. The persistent, abnormal heat could lead to strenuous conditions (**Polygon 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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