

Central America, Summer 2022: Drought and Flooding Contribute to Inequality, Migration in Northern Triangle

Central America's Northern Triangle, consisting of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, is prone to both hurricanes and drought, and has seen mass migrations in recent years because of inequality, violence, political corruption, and instability.



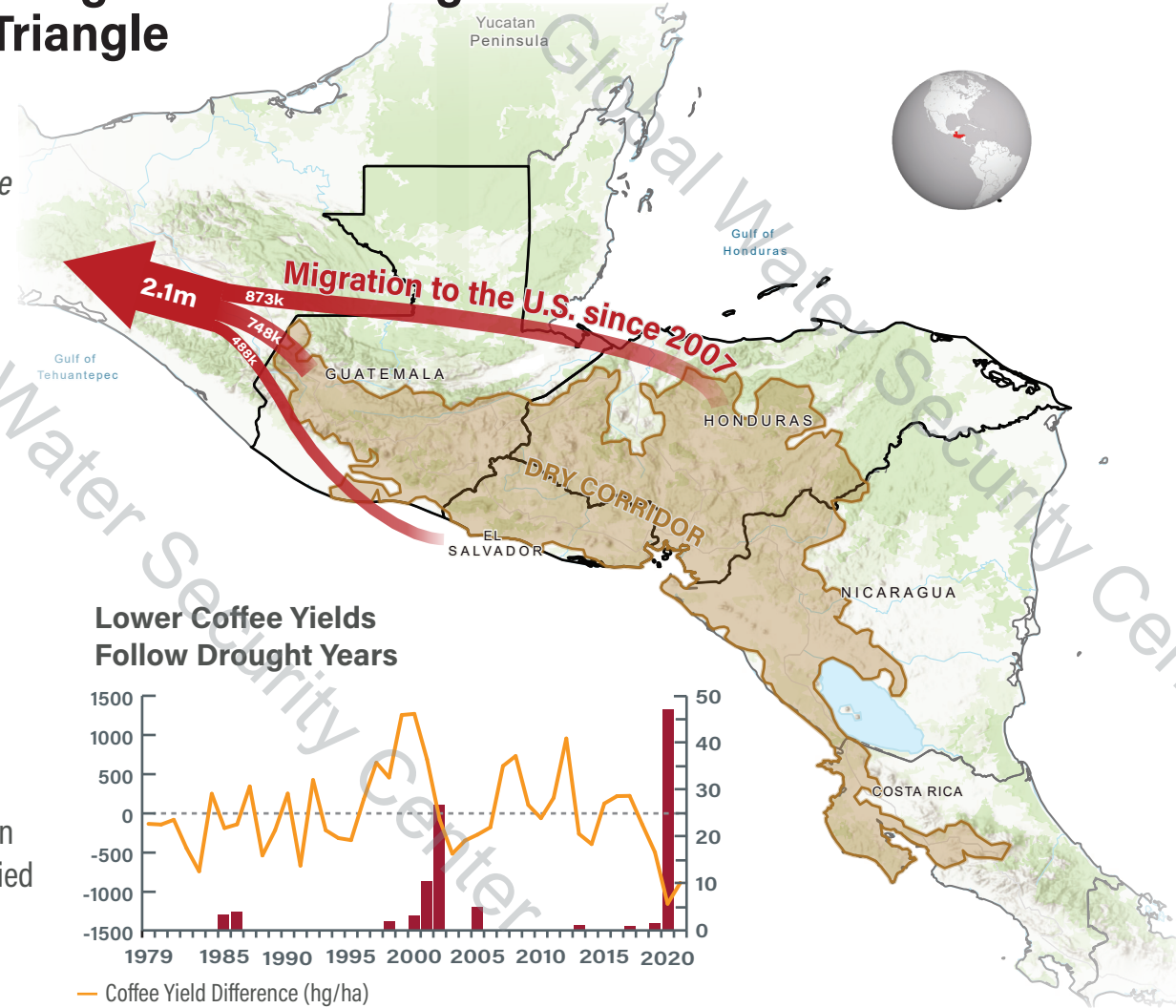
30-40% drop in rainfall during years of El Niño with extended periods of heatwaves. Years with intense rains have led to erosion.



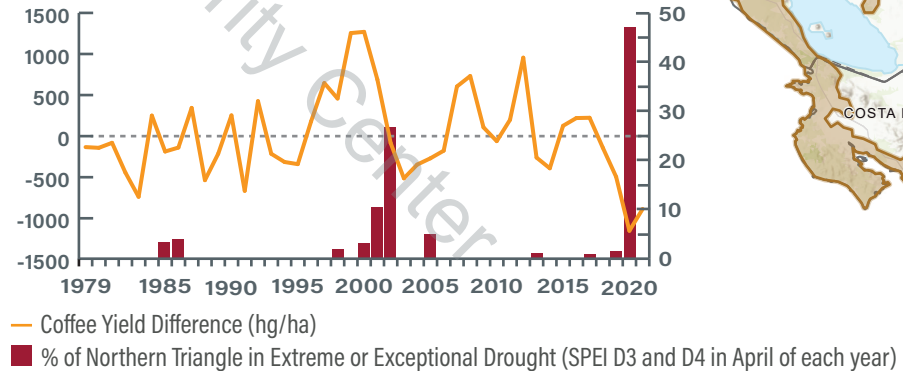
70% of low-income farmers have begun selling land and valuables to compensate for drought. Agriculture accounts for **30%** of labor in the Northern Triangle (2019).



56% of U.S. border encounters from the Northern Triangle in 2021 were families and unaccompanied minors fleeing violence and poverty.



Lower Coffee Yields Follow Drought Years



Pathway to Impact

The "Dry Corridor" is an area characterized by periods of extended drought and rainfall. The region is populated mostly by low income households that rely on farming, and 70% have begun selling land and valuables to compensate farming losses.

Coffee production overall is down and cost of production is up. Increased production costs can be attributed largely to transportation costs and high fertilizer prices due to the conflict in Ukraine. The area is also affected by coffee rust, a fungal disease that has limited production and employment.

Poverty and unemployment are the primary push factors of migration from the Northern Triangle. Climate events and violence have exacerbated the poor socioeconomic and security conditions.

Sources:

Migration Data:

United States Customs and Border Protection. (2022). Southwest Land Border Encounters. <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters>

Agricultural Data:

FAO.Crops and Livestock Products License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO. Extracted from: <https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/QCL>.
Data of Access: August 3, 2022

Drought Data:

Global Water Security Center. (2022). Global Drought Index. <https://h2o.aer.com/drought>

Text Data:

Aguero, M. A. (2019). Concept Project Information Document (PID) - Water Security in the Dry Corridor of Honduras (Phase 1) - P169901 (English). Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/383151548806050902/-/Concept-Project-Information-Document-PID-Water-Security-in-the-Dry-Corridor-of-Honduras-Phase-1-P169901>

FAO.Crops and Livestock Products License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO. Extracted from: <https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/QCL>.
Data of Access: October 23, 2022

Basemap Source:

Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community [Vector tile layer]. Scale Not Given. "Light Gray Canvas Base". September 21, 2022. https://basemaps.arcgis.com/arcgis/rest/services/World_Basemap_v2/VectorTileServer. (August 3, 2022).

Maps throughout this report were created using ArcGIS® software by Esri. ArcGIS® and ArcMap™ are the intellectual property of Esri and are used herein under license. Copyright © Esri. All rights reserved. For more information about Esri® software, please visit www.esri.com.