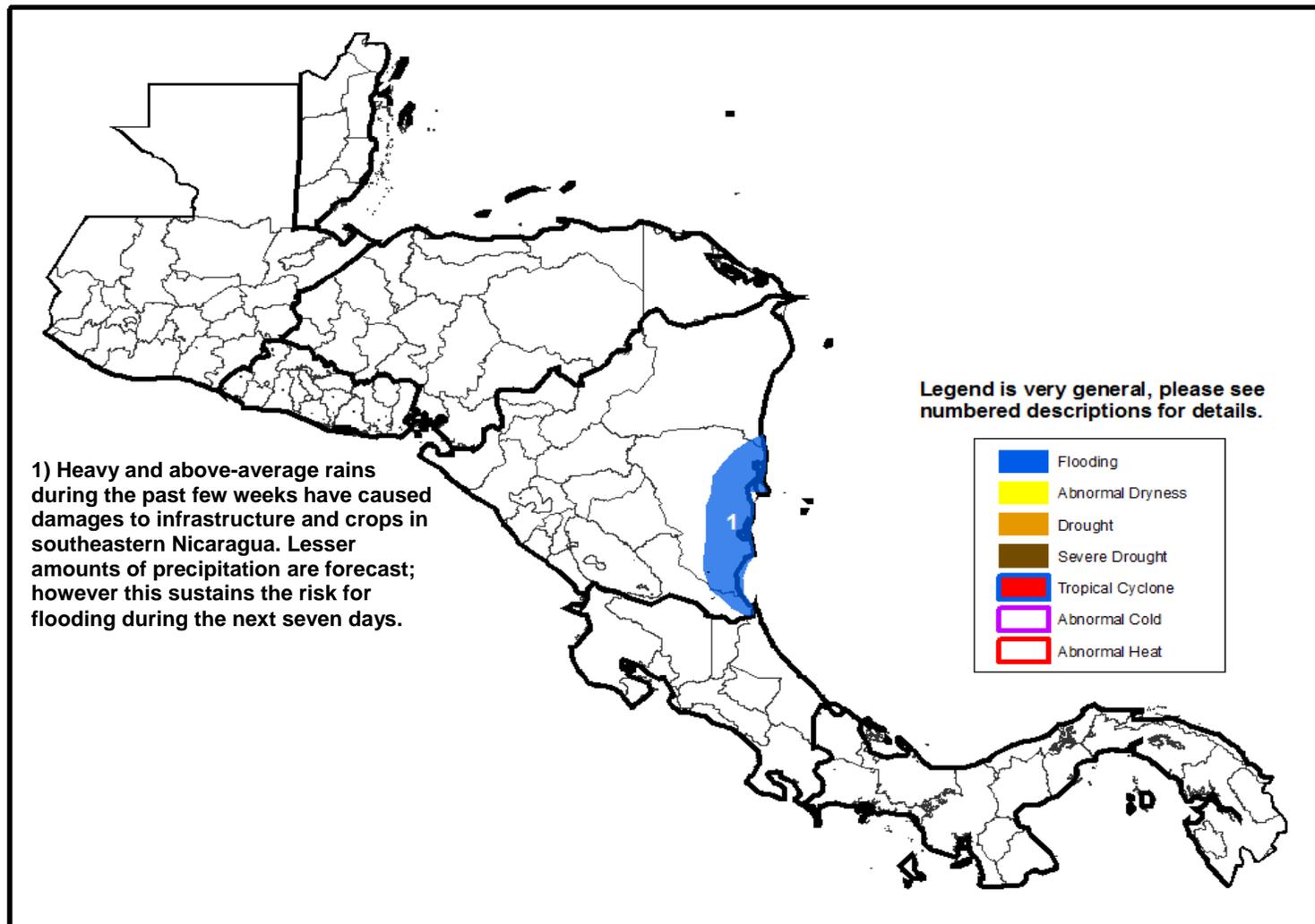




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET August 8 – August 14, 2013

- Heavy rains continued over eastern Nicaragua during the past week.



Lighter than average rainfall is expected across Central America next week.

Enhanced precipitation was observed in the southern Caribbean, with a suppression of rainfall along the Gulf of Honduras and Gulf of Fonseca region during the past seven days. The heaviest weekly rainfall amounts (>200mm) were received across many departments of eastern Nicaragua, as well as in the Alajuela, Heredia and Limon departments of northern Costa Rica. This marks the second consecutive week of torrential rainfall in the region, which has caused significant damages to maize, rice, coconut, bananas, and cassava crops since late in July. Further west, moderate to heavy amounts of rain were also observed across the Pacific departments of Guatemala and Costa Rica. Light rains continued throughout the central departments of Guatemala, and in eastern El Salvador near the Gulf of Fonseca. In Guatemala, developing moisture deficits have already negatively impacted crops over some areas of the Quiché, Baja Vepearaz, and local areas of the El Progreso and Jalapa departments during July. The continuation of poor rains could negatively impact crop development and possibly reduce seasonal yields over some areas.

For next week, drier conditions are forecast over much of Central America, with little to light rain expected throughout the interior of the region. In Guatemala, reduced rain is generally expected; however localized heavy showers are possible and could trigger flooding or landslides over some areas. Lesser amounts of precipitation are forecast along the Atlantic coasts of Nicaragua to help alleviate saturated conditions. However, the potential for moderate rain showers may sustain the risk for additional flooding.

