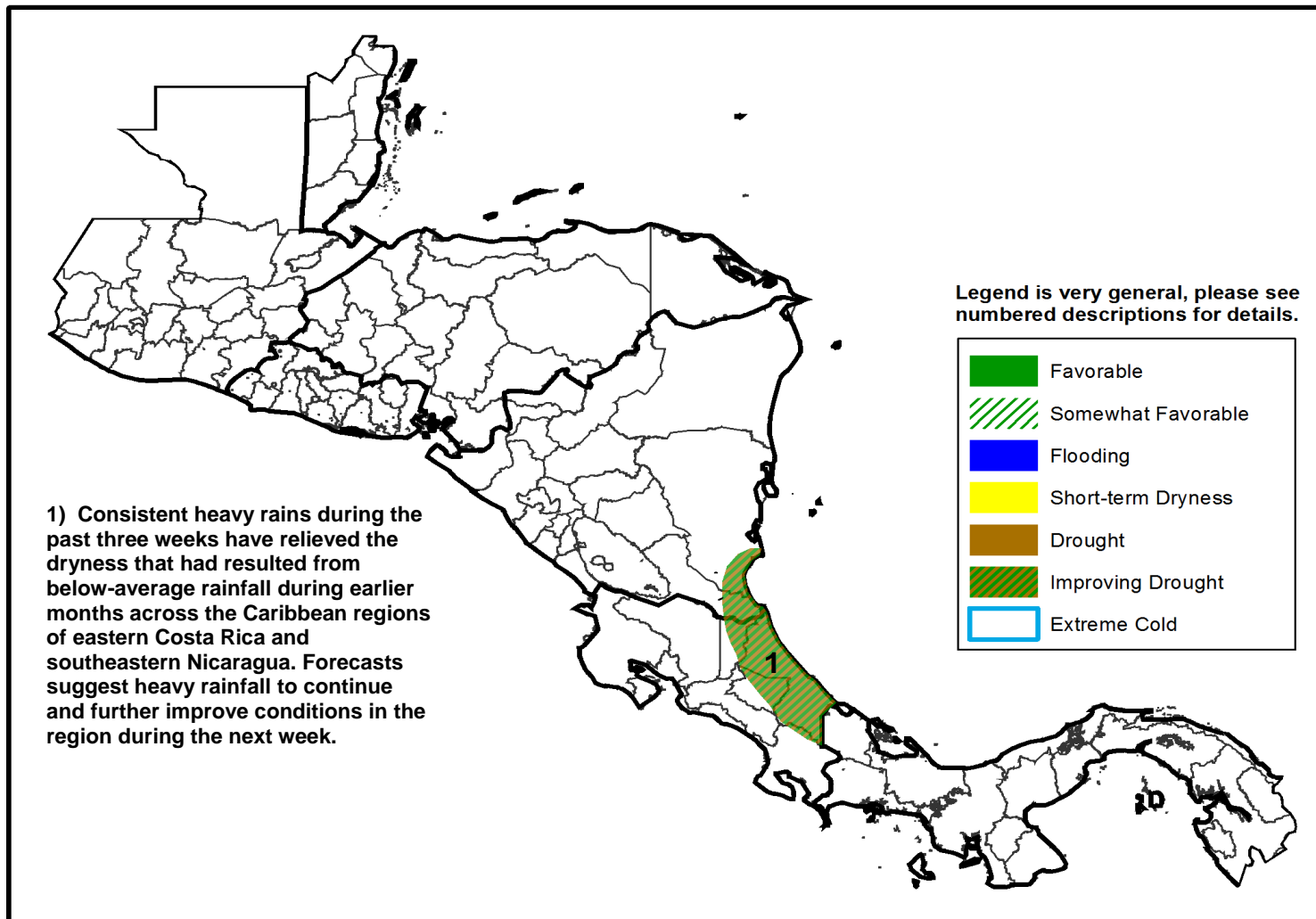




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 3 – November 9, 2011

- While little to no rainfall was observed across the inland of northern Central America, heavy rains were recorded along the Atlantic coastlines of southern Central America during the past week.



A decrease in rainfall is expected to continue across the inland of northern Central America during the next week.

The development and movement of Hurricane Rina have brought heavy (> 50 mm) rainfall over the Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Honduras. However, the heaviest rainfall remained mostly off-shore of Central America. While parts of the Gracias a Dios department of Honduras received heavy rainfall, the Izabal department of Guatemala and northern Belize only received light (< 20 mm) rainfall during the past week. In addition, much of northern Central America observed little to no (< 10 mm) rainfall during the past week, bringing relief to the stagnant and excessive moisture from above-average rains during past weeks. The standing moisture surpluses have already negatively affected harvests and destroyed crops in some regions due to fungal development. Meanwhile, heavy rainfall was observed in western Nicaragua and along the Atlantic coastlines of southern Central America during the past week. This has helped to replenish ground moisture in the dry portions of the Caribbean regions of Costa Rica.

Forecasts for the upcoming week suggest another week of light rainfall across the inland of northern Central America. However, heavy rainfall is expected over the Bay Islands, Gulf of Honduras, along the Atlantic basin of Nicaragua, and the Southern Caribbean during the next seven days. The approach of a cold front is also expected to significantly lower temperatures across the Central Plateau of Guatemala. The light rainfall forecast over northern Central America should help to erode the thirty-day rainfall surpluses and aid cropping activities in many local areas of the region.

