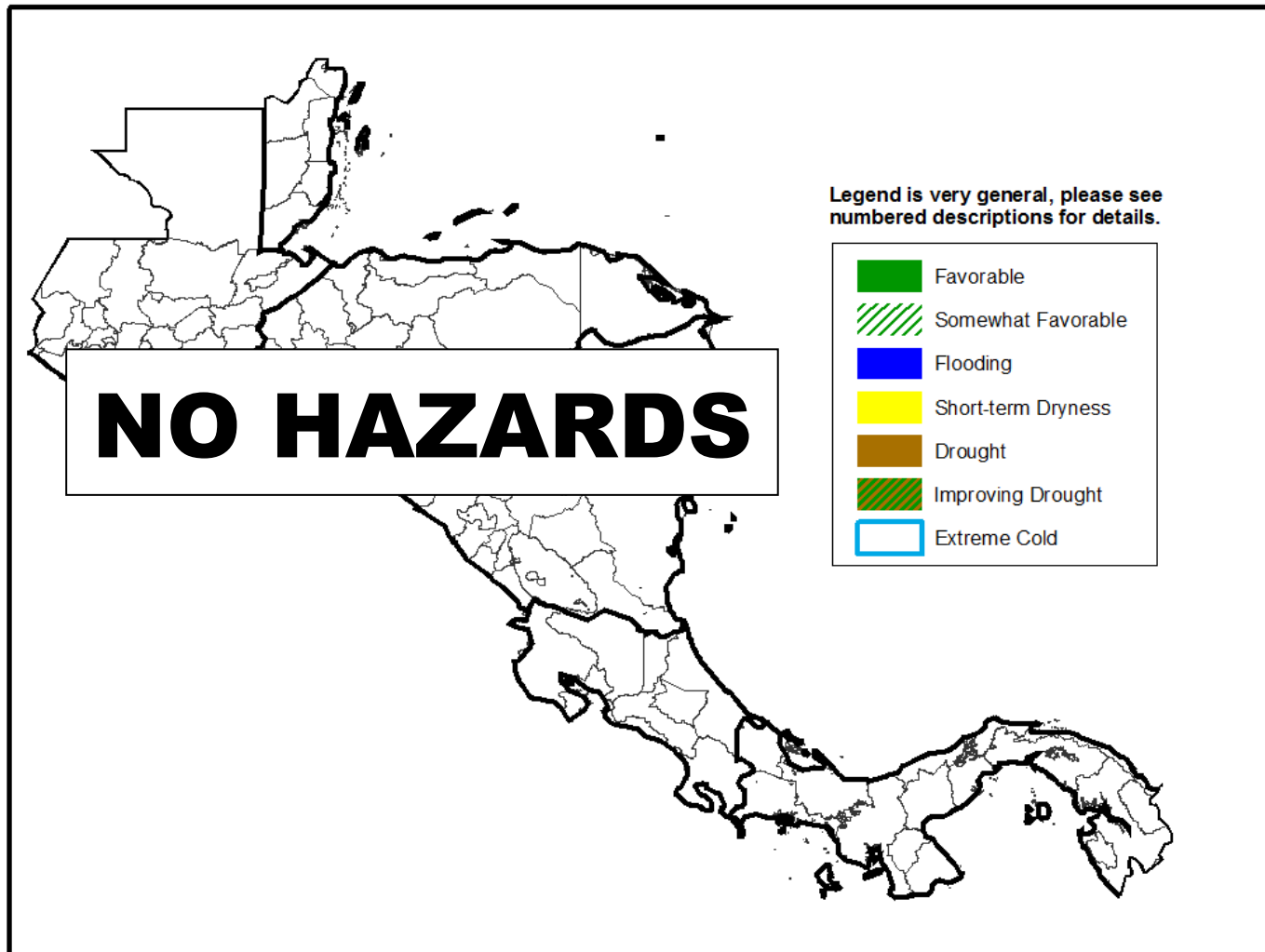




**Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook  
For USAID / FEWS-NET  
January 5 – January 11, 2012**

- Heavy rainfall was observed across coastal Belize and northern Guatemala while little rain was observed elsewhere in Central America.



## Heavy rain impacted Belize while little to no precipitation was recorded elsewhere in Central America.

During the past week, torrential rainfall (> 50 mm) was observed across much of Belize and the northern portion of the Petén department of Guatemala. The majority of the rain fell over a 24 hour period on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The heavy rains over northern Guatemala marked the second consecutive week where moderate to heavy rain was recorded. This has led to growing thirty-day rainfall surpluses over the region after drier than average conditions persisted during the beginning and middle of December. Elsewhere in Central America, little precipitation (< 10 mm) was recorded. While most of Central America climatologically receives light weekly rainfall (< 10 mm) during the Apante season, locations along the Atlantic coastline should receive moderate to heavy weekly rainfall (> 20 mm) in January. Though rains were below-average during the past week, thirty-day rainfall anomalies remain positive across much of southern Central America. The above-average thirty-day rainfall in Costa Rica has provided relief from dry conditions that developed during October and November.

For the next week, models suggest that moderate to locally heavy rain (> 30 mm) will fall across the Atlantic coastline of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and northern Panama. The heaviest rain is expected to fall across southern portions of Central America. Elsewhere, moderate rain (10-30 mm) is forecast across the Petén department of Guatemala while light rains (< 10 mm) are forecast for central and western portions of Central America.

