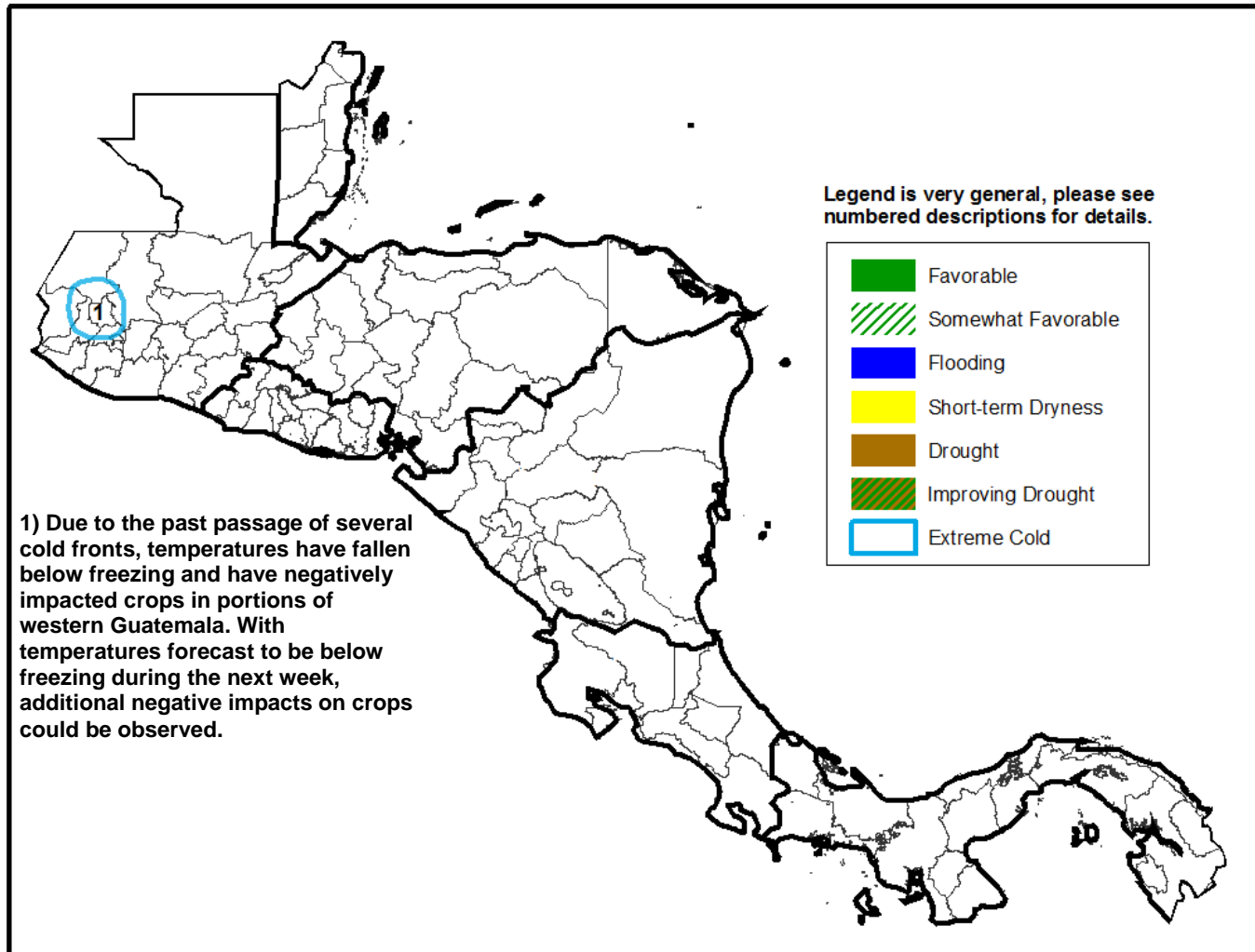




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET January 19 – January 25, 2012

- Localized moderate rainfall was observed along the Gulf of Honduras in Guatemala and Belize.



Light rainfall was recorded across much of Central America with localized moderate rain observed along the Gulf of Honduras.

During the last seven days, rainfall was light across much of Central America. The light rain contrasted with heavier rains during previous weeks that fell in, at least, one location along the Caribbean coastline of Central America. The heaviest rains (30-60 mm) during the past week were observed in Belize and the Izabal department of Guatemala. Elsewhere, light rains (1-15 mm) prevailed. The lack of rain along the Caribbean coastline of Nicaragua and Costa Rica led to weekly rainfall deficits between 20-50 mm and turned thirty-day rainfall anomalies negative across much of Costa Rica. Apante season rainfall remains close to average across much of Central America with surpluses existing across Belize, northern Guatemala and central/eastern Nicaragua. Deficits remain, though, across localized areas in southeastern Costa Rica. With regards to temperatures, several cold fronts during the past week have led to below-average temperatures across Guatemala, with the coldest temperatures located in western Guatemala. The cold temperatures negatively affected crops in southwestern portions of Guatemala.

For the next seven days, models suggest zonal east to west flow across Central America. Precipitation totals are expected to be light to moderate (10-30 mm) across much of the Caribbean coastline of Central America with localized areas in Nicaragua receiving higher rainfall totals (> 30 mm). Below-average temperatures are also forecast for the next week across Central America with the coldest temperatures expected across southwestern portions of Guatemala.

