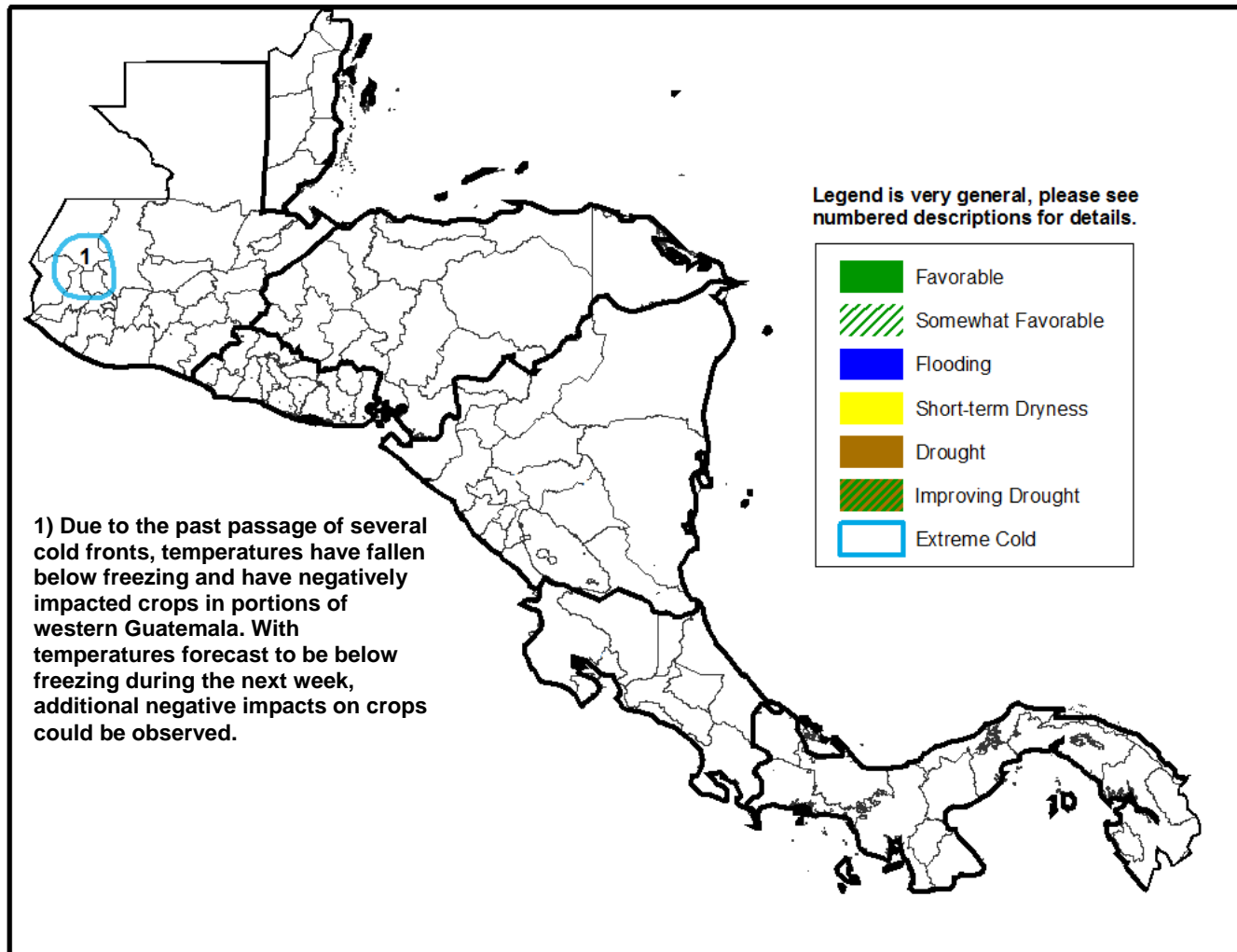




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET February 2 – February 8, 2012

- Moderate to heavy rain was recorded across northern and central Guatemala.



## Moderate to heavy rain was observed across central and northern Guatemala.

During the last seven days, rainfall was light (< 15 mm) across much of central and southern Central America. However, rainfall across northern Central America including northern and central Guatemala and Belize was moderate to heavy (> 30 mm). The heaviest rainfall (> 50 mm) was observed across the southern Petén, Alta Verapaz and Izabal departments of Guatemala. The above-average weekly rainfall in Guatemala and Belize increased thirty-day rainfall surpluses across northern Central America and provided good conditions for Apante season cropping in Guatemala. Farther south, localized moderate rain showers (10-30 mm) were observed across southern Guatemala, eastern Honduras, and northeastern Nicaragua. Elsewhere, rains were light across Central America for a third consecutive week. Although rainfall is reduced during the Apante season, rains have been below-average along the Atlantic coastline of Central America. Temperatures, also, have been below-average across Central America during the past several weeks with temperatures falling below-freezing in portions of western Guatemala.

For the next week, models forecast moderate to heavy rains (> 20 mm) across the Atlantic coastlines of Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala and Belize. The heaviest rainfall (> 40 mm) is expected in southern Belize and along the northern coastline of Honduras. Meanwhile, rainfall is forecast to be limited (<10 mm) in Costa Rica and along the Pacific coastline of Central America. Temperatures are forecast to remain below-average across Central America although low temperatures across the highlands of Guatemala are not expected to be as cold as prior weeks. However, temperatures could drop below-freezing across the higher elevations of Guatemala during the next week.

