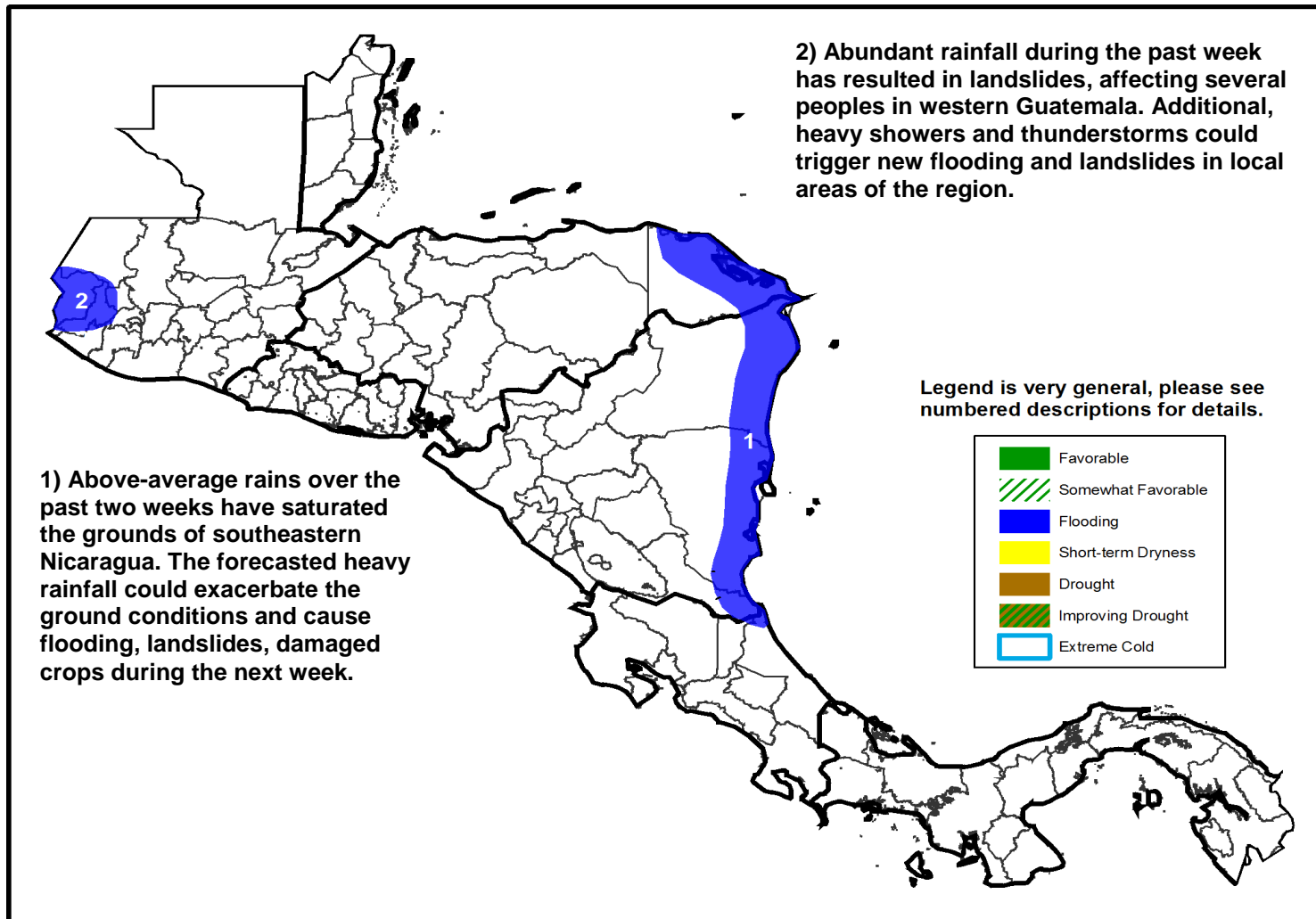


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET July 19 – July 25, 2012

- Heavy rainfall is expected over portions of western Guatemala and along the Atlantic Basin of Central America during the next week.



## Tropical wave activities have enhanced rainfall over many local areas of Central America.

The succession of tropical waves has increased rainfall amounts over many regions of Central America during the past few weeks. During the past seven days, easterly waves have brought heavy rainfall, which has caused landslides in local areas of the San Marcos and Quetzaltenango departments of Guatemala. Heavy rainfall was also observed in western El Salvador, Gulf of Honduras, and southeastern Nicaragua, where excessive (> 100 mm) rainfall amounts were recorded. The above-average rainfall observed during the past week has further increased rainfall surpluses over many regions of Central America except eastern Honduras, north-central Nicaragua, portions of Costa Rica, and Panama, where moisture deficits have persisted over the past thirty days. Generally, the continuation of seasonal rainfall is expected to aid cropping activities in Central America. However, excessive moisture could also lead to unfavorable conditions for crops over some local, already-saturated regions.

During the next outlook period, while the inland of Central America is expected to receive light (< 30 mm) rainfall, which suggests the continuation of the *Canicula* period, the Gulf of Honduras and Caribbean Basin of Central America are likely to experience heavy (> 50 mm) downpours. This is associated with a strong, moist easterly flow. Farther west, heavy showers and thunderstorms are forecast over local areas of western Guatemala. The continued forecasted, heavy rainfall could exacerbate the ground conditions and trigger flooding and landslides over many local areas of the region.

