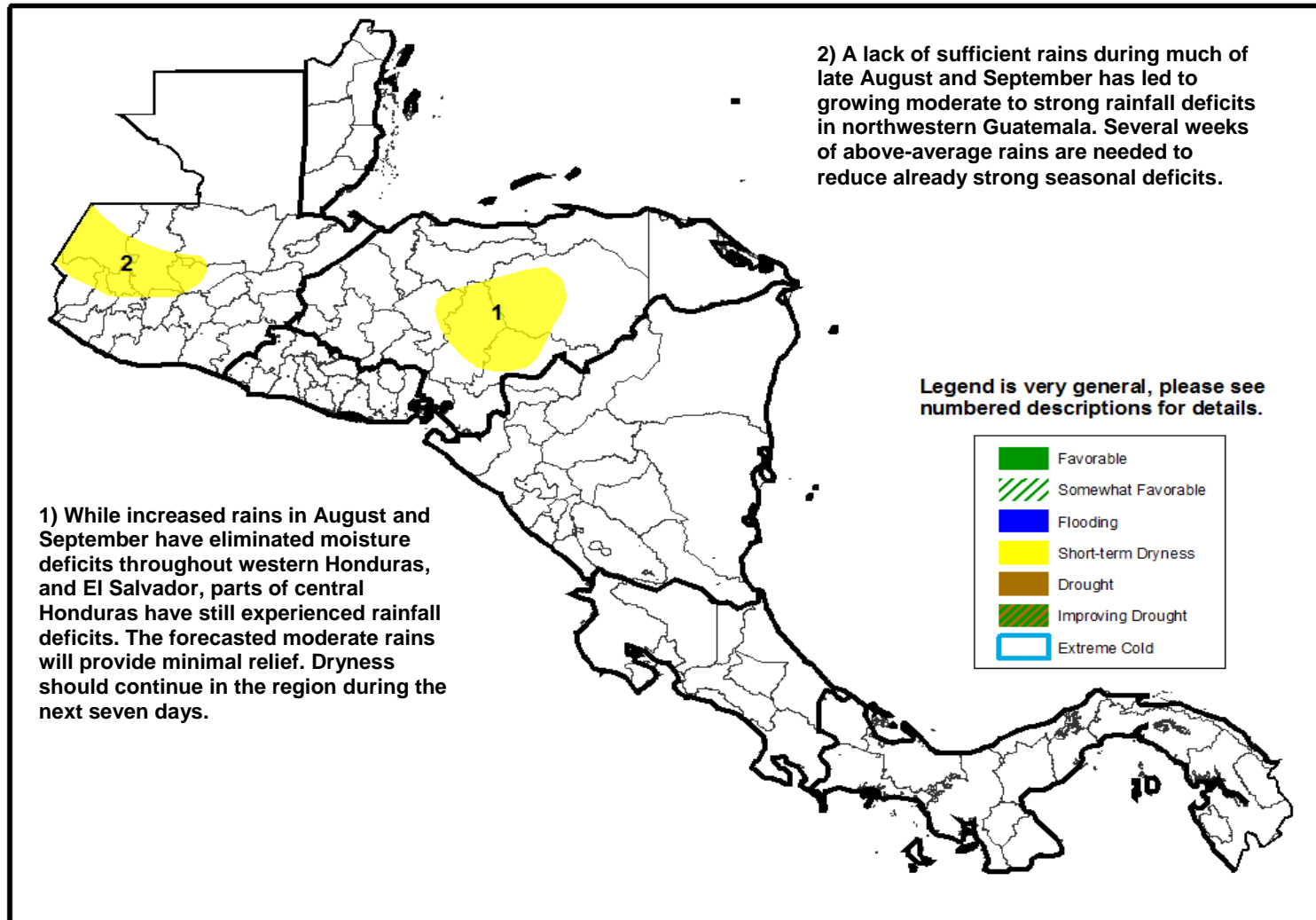


## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET October 4 – October 10, 2012

- Below-average rains continued across northern Central America during the past week
- Seasonally heavy rains fell across much of Southern Central America.



## Rainfall deficits increased across northern Central America during the past seven days.

During the past seven days, light to locally moderate rain (10-50mm) was observed across northern Central America. The highest rainfall amounts (>50mm) in the north were located along the Gulf of Honduras and along the Honduras/Guatemala border. The light to moderate rains (10-40mm) were recorded across areas in Guatemala and Honduras (the Huehuetenango, Quiché, Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, Totonicapán and San Marcos departments of Guatemala and the Olancho, El Paraíso and Francisco Morazán departments of Honduras) which have seen a poor distribution of rainfall dating back to August. Overall, much of northern Central America observed rains which were 20-50mm below-average during the past week. Thirty-day rainfall anomalies remain below-average (20-200mm) as well. Farther south, seasonally heavy rains (>40mm) were observed across much of southern Central America. The highest rainfall totals (>70mm) were located across inland areas of Costa Rica and Panama. While thirty-day rainfall anomalies remain negative in southern Central America, any effect on cropping should be minimal as ample ground moisture is present.

For the next seven days, an increase in rain is expected across dry portions of northwest Guatemala as heavy rain (>50mm) is forecast. The rains should help replenish ground moisture; however, additional weeks of above-average rain are still needed. Elsewhere, moderate to locally heavy rain (10-40mm, locally >40mm) is expected across Honduras and Nicaragua. In the south, heavy rain (>50mm) is once again forecast for Costa Rica and Panama continuing seasonally wet conditions.

