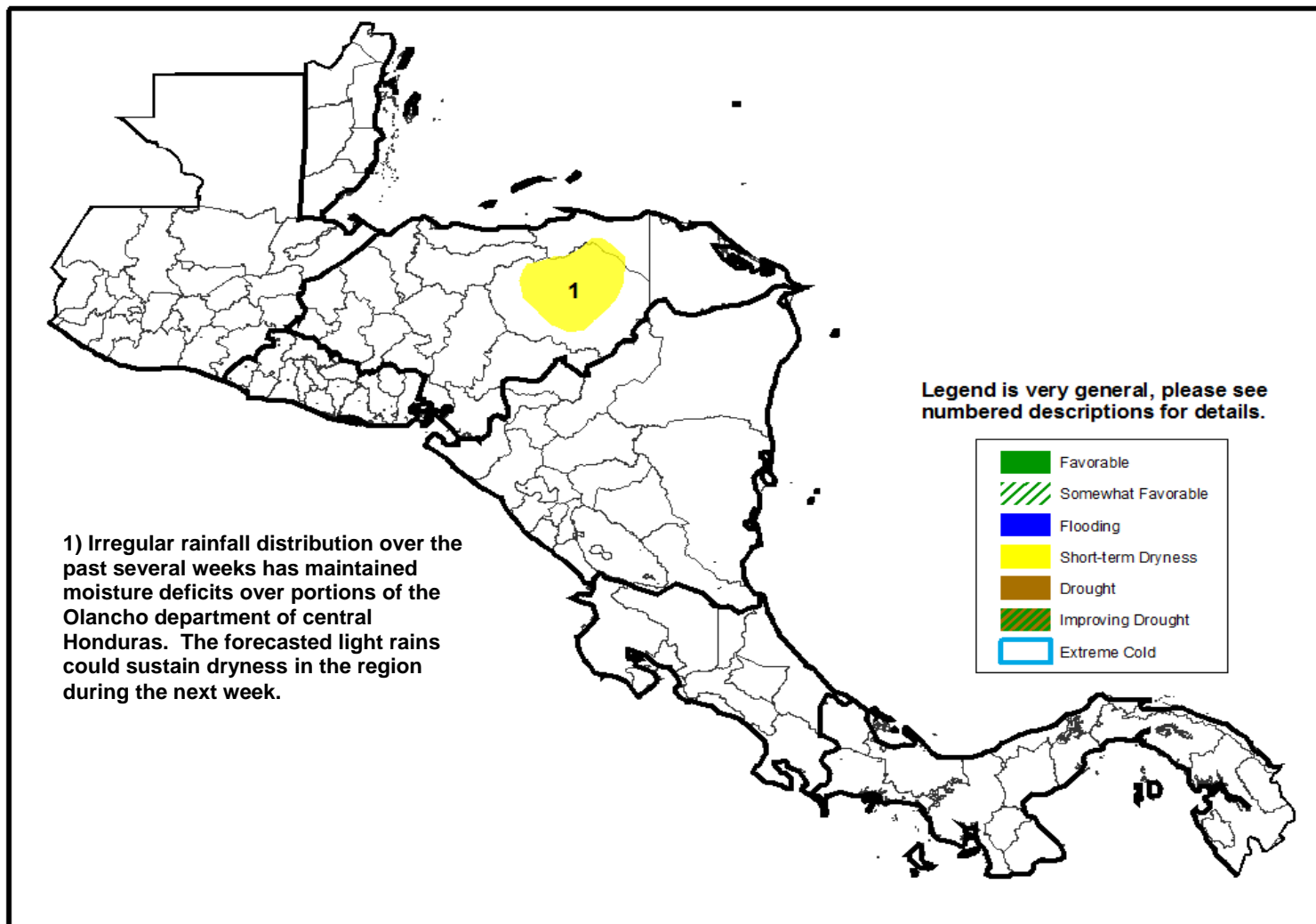


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET November 1 – November 7, 2012

- Persistent downpours triggered flooding across southwestern Guatemala, while light rains were observed over the inland of northern Central America during the past week.



Light rains persist over northern Central America.

Reduced rains were observed over much of Central America during the past week. After widespread, heavy rains during the previous week, little (< 10 mm) rains fell throughout central Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and northern Nicaragua. In contrast, downpours (> 75 mm) have persisted across the Pacific region of Guatemala, including the Quetzaltenango, Retalhuleu, Suchitepéquez, and parts of the Escuintla Departments, resulting in flooding over local areas of the region. Since the beginning of October, southwestern Guatemala has received rainfall surpluses exceeding 200 mm, while portions of north east central Honduras have recorded moisture deficits between -200 and -100 mm. This is indicative of a uneven rainfall distribution over the past few weeks, which could negatively impact crop development over local areas of northern Central America during the *Postrera* season.

As for the next seven days, reduced rains are generally expected over northern Central America as a weak high pressure system is influencing the weather patterns to the northwest of the region. Light (< 20 mm) rains are forecasted across the inland of Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua; however isolated showers and thunderstorms could still occur over the highlands of Guatemala, Gulf of Honduras, along the northern coastlines of Honduras and Atlantic coasts of Nicaragua due to enhanced low-level easterlies. Meanwhile, heavy (> 50 mm) rains are expected to continue over Costa Rica and Panama during the next week.

