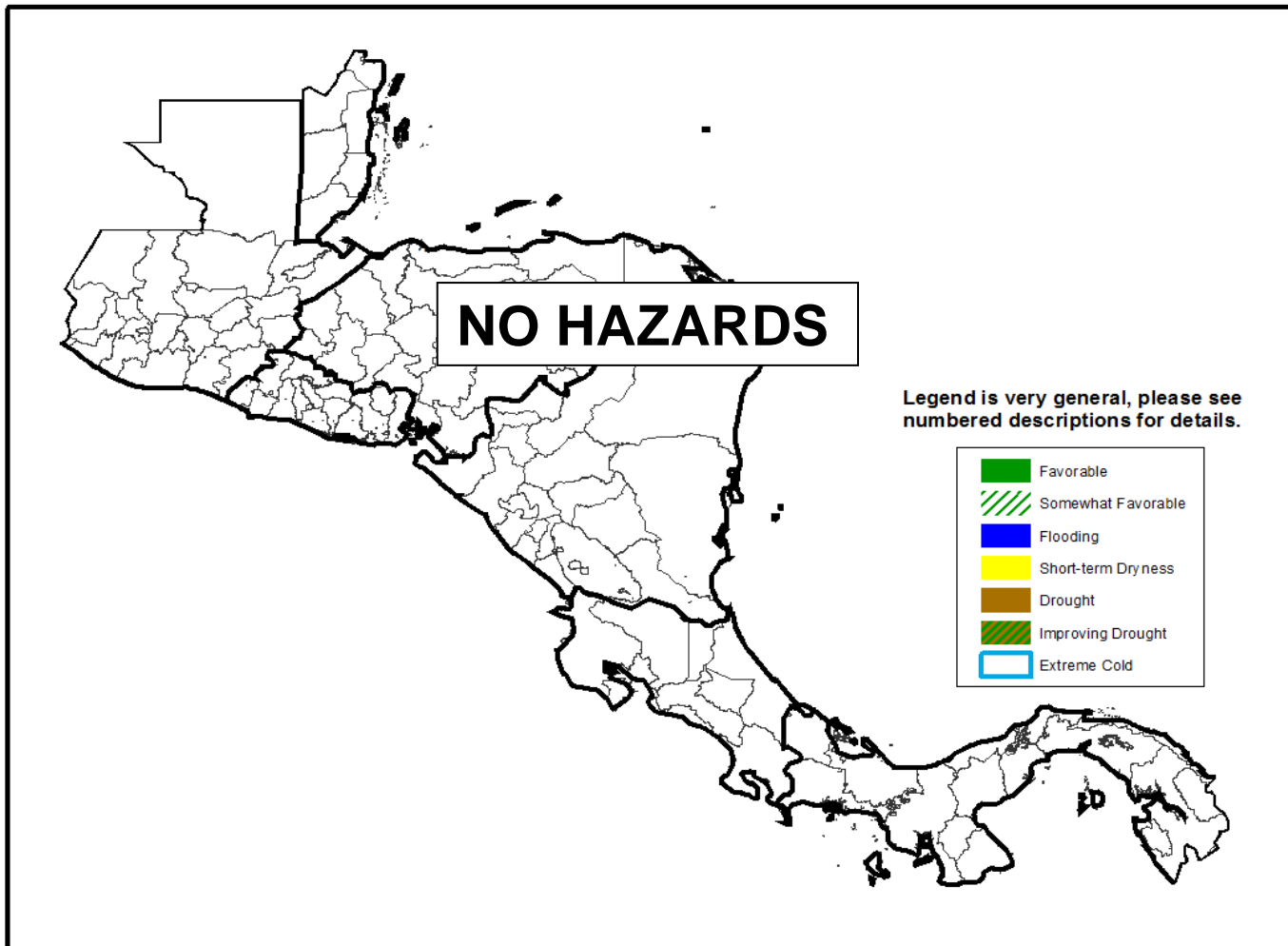




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET December 6 – December 12, 2012

- Winter shower activity expected to be at a minimum during the next seven days.



Reduced rains expected next week.

During the last seven days, moderate to locally heavy amounts of precipitation was received across Central America. The highest rainfall amounts (>100mm) were observed along the northern coastline of Honduras, marking the fourth consecutive week of torrentially heavy rainfall. Anomalously heavy rains were also received across the Atlantic departments of Nicaragua and along interior areas of Costa Rica. Elsewhere, seasonally light rainfall was observed throughout the Gulf of Fonseca region, and in the higher elevations of Guatemala. Since the beginning of November, below-average rains dominated much of Central America, with the exception of northern Honduras where many local areas in the Cortes and Atlantida departments have experienced unseasonably heavy rainfall. Further south, the lack of rain during the past few months in the Olancho department of Honduras will negatively impact harvests, regardless of additional rains.

For the upcoming outlook period, weak easterly and northeasterly flow across the Caribbean is expected to produce lighter amounts of rainfall over Central America during the next seven days. The highest rainfall amounts are forecast over the southern Caribbean and the southern Gulf of Honduras region, but are expected to remain much less compared to previous several weeks, and may relieve the threat for flooding in northern Honduras during early December. Additionally, a weaker northerly flow from the Gulf of Mexico is expected to keep minimum temperatures more seasonable.

