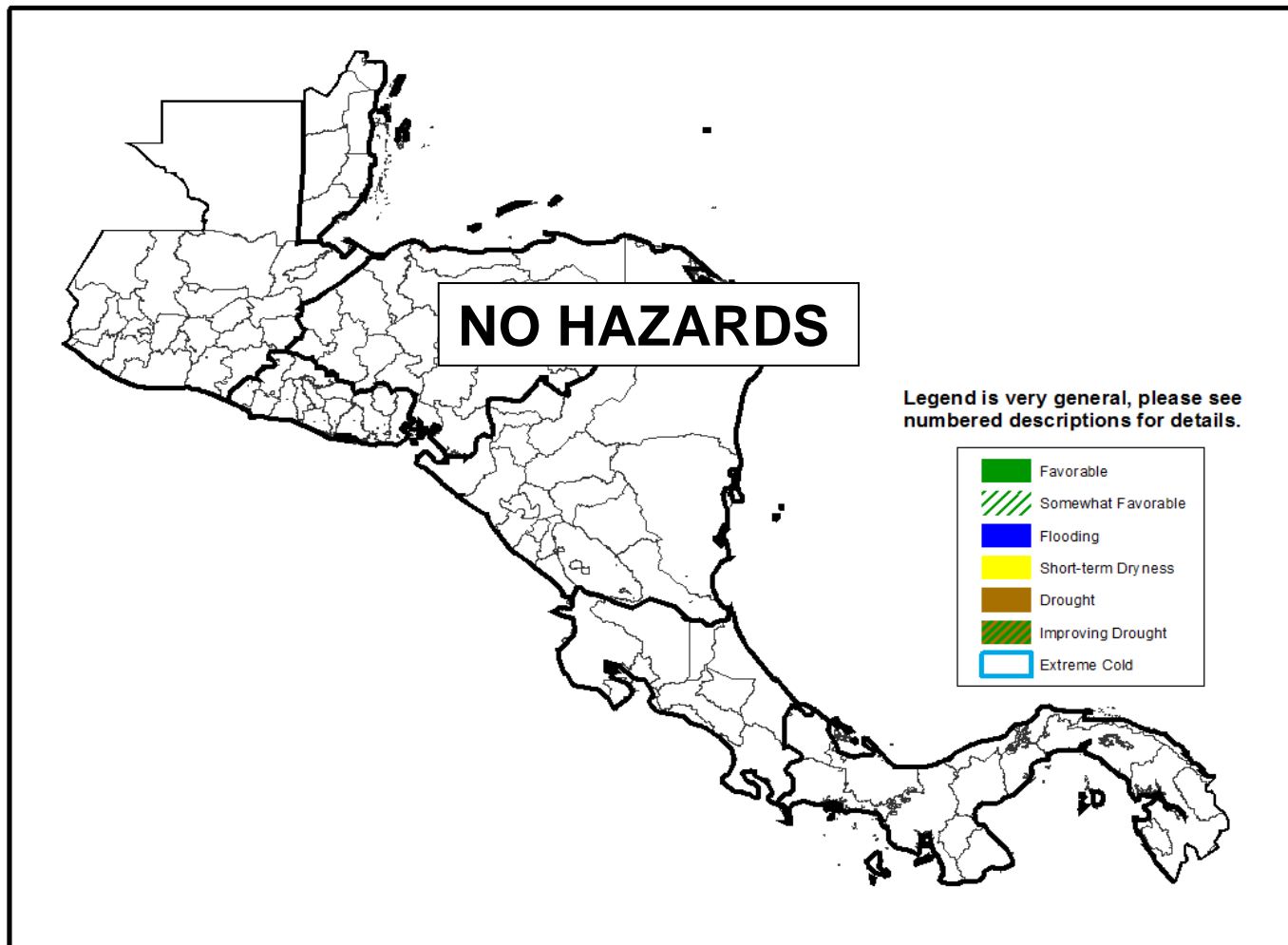




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET January 3 – January 9, 2013

- Heavy coastal showers were observed in Costa Rica, while dry conditions prevailed elsewhere.



Torrential coastal showers were observed across the Caribbean coastline of Costa Rica.

During the past week, light rain (<15mm) was observed across much of Central America. The heaviest rain (>50mm) occurred along the Caribbean coastline of Costa Rica, where 150mm was observed at Limon. The heavy showers helped to reduce Apante season rainfall deficits that had developed during a below-average start of season throughout the month of December. Elsewhere, seasonably light rains were observed with localized moderate rains (10-30mm) falling in the Olancho and Gracias A Dios departments of Honduras and the Izabal department of Guatemala. Overall, Apante season rainfall has been near-average across Central America. Meanwhile, across higher elevations in Guatemala, minimum temperatures remained slightly below-average. However, temperatures did not fall below-freezing.

For the next seven days, anomalously strong easterly winds are forecast throughout the Caribbean, resulting in moderate to locally heavy rains across the Caribbean coastlines of Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Panama, and along the Gulf of Honduras. The heaviest rains (>40mm) are forecast along the Gulf of Honduras. Temperatures are expected to remain below-average across higher elevations in Guatemala but remain above-freezing.

