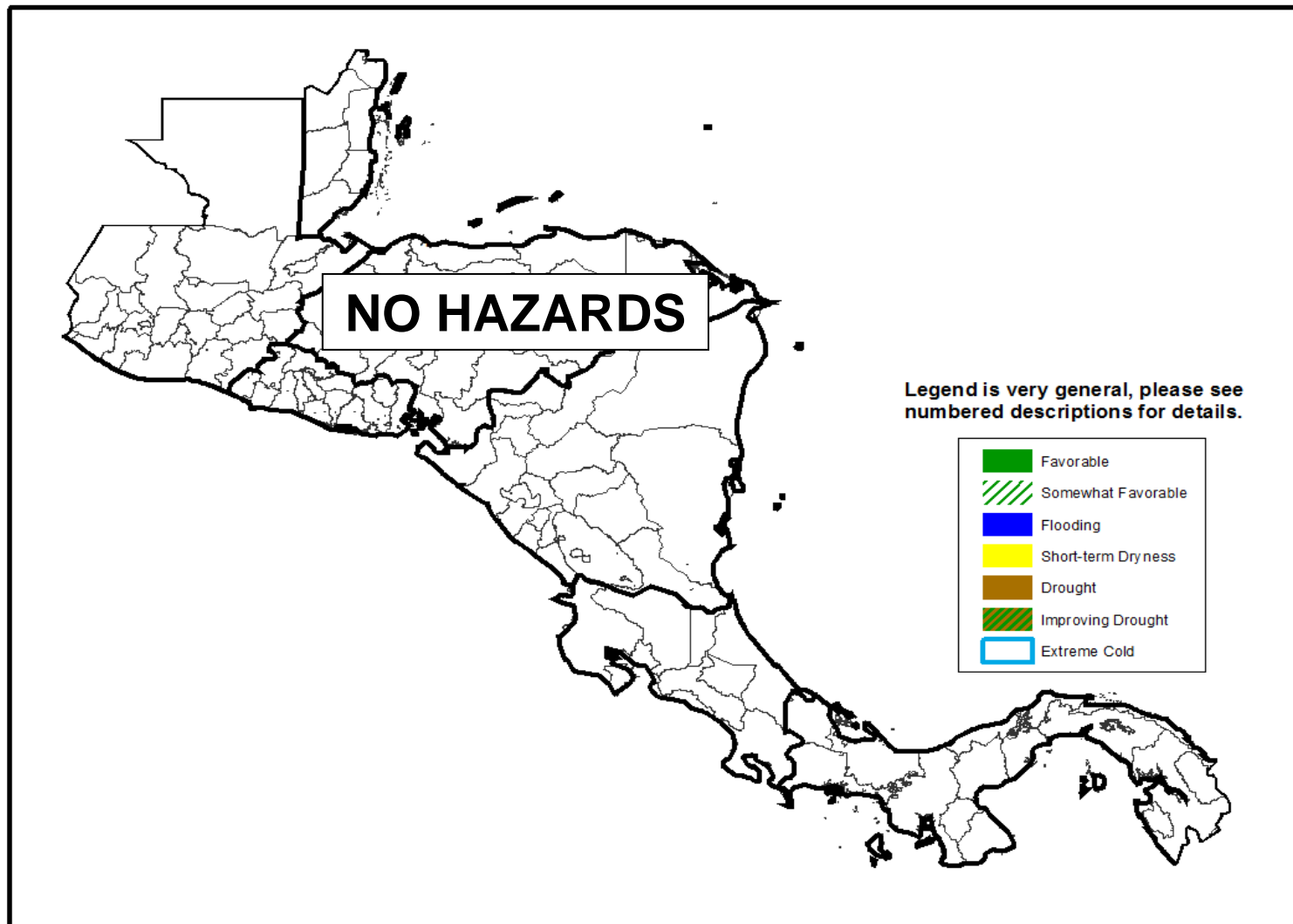




Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET January 17 – January 23, 2013

- Coastal showers were observed along the Gulf of Honduras in Honduras, Guatemala and Belize.



Moderate to heavy coastal rain showers were observed along the Gulf of Honduras.

During the past week, the heaviest rainfall (>20mm) was recorded along the Caribbean coastlines of Honduras, Guatemala and Belize as well as the Petén department of Guatemala. Prevailing easterly flow across the Caribbean resulted in an increase in moisture across the Gulf of Honduras. The highest precipitation totals (>25mm) were located in the Olancho department of northern Honduras. Elsewhere in Central America, seasonably light rains (<10mm) were observed. Over the past thirty days, slight rainfall deficits remain across southern Central America, including Costa Rica and Panama, while slightly above-average rain has fallen along the Gulf of Honduras. On a longer time scale, Apante season rainfall has been near average across Central America with slightly below-average seasonal rainfall in Costa Rica.

The impacts of an atmospheric front at the beginning of the observation period and easterly winds afterwards are expected to continue to increase moisture and coastal rain showers in northern Guatemala and along the Caribbean coastlines of Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala and Belize. The heaviest rains (>50mm) are forecast across the northern Honduran coastline. Moderate rains (10-50mm) are expected across northern Guatemala. Elsewhere, light rains (<10mm) are forecast for southern Central America and inland areas of northern Central America. Meanwhile, temperatures are expected to remain above-freezing during the next week across higher elevations of Guatemala.

