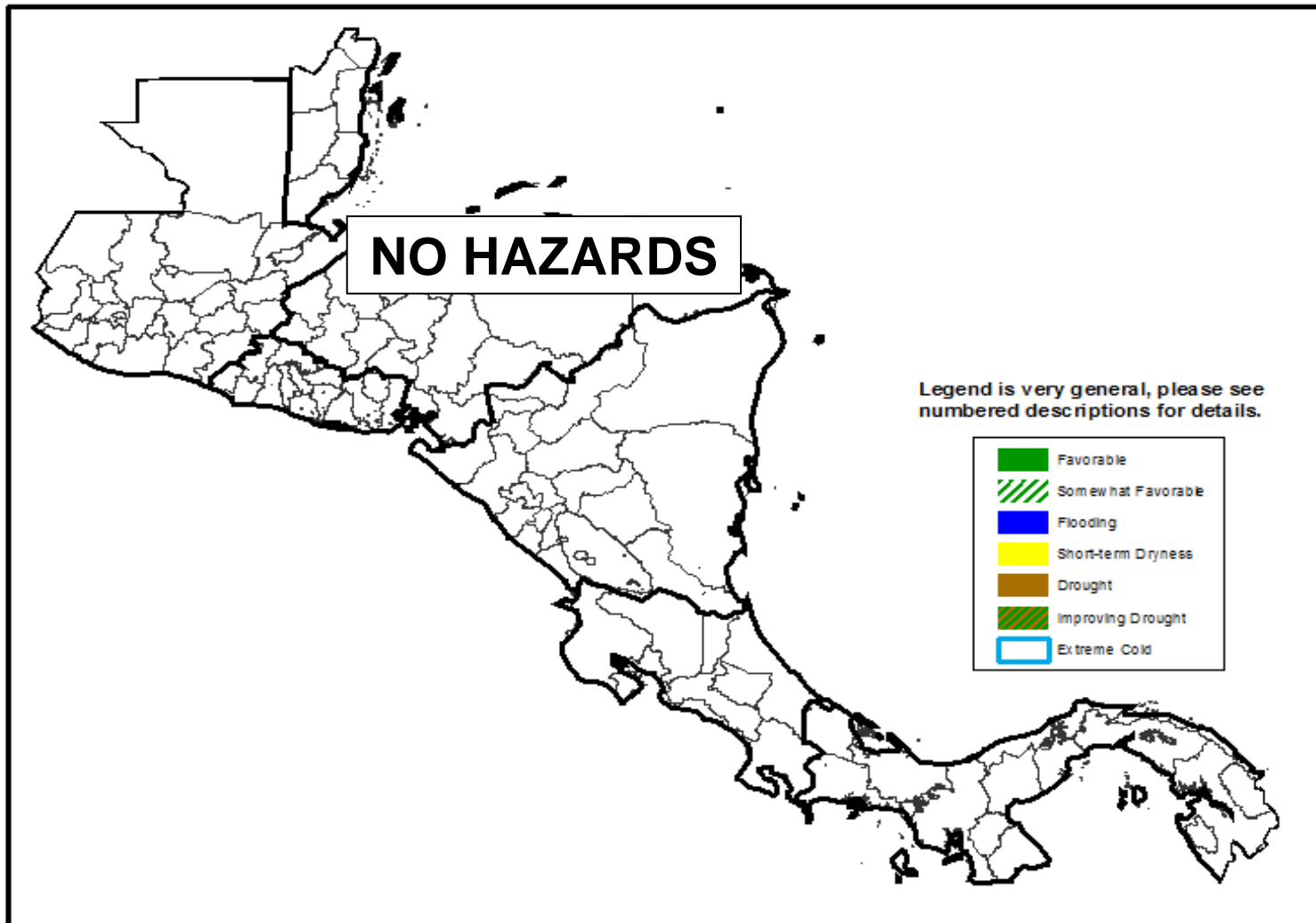




**Climate Prediction Center's Central America
Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
January 31 – February 6, 2013**

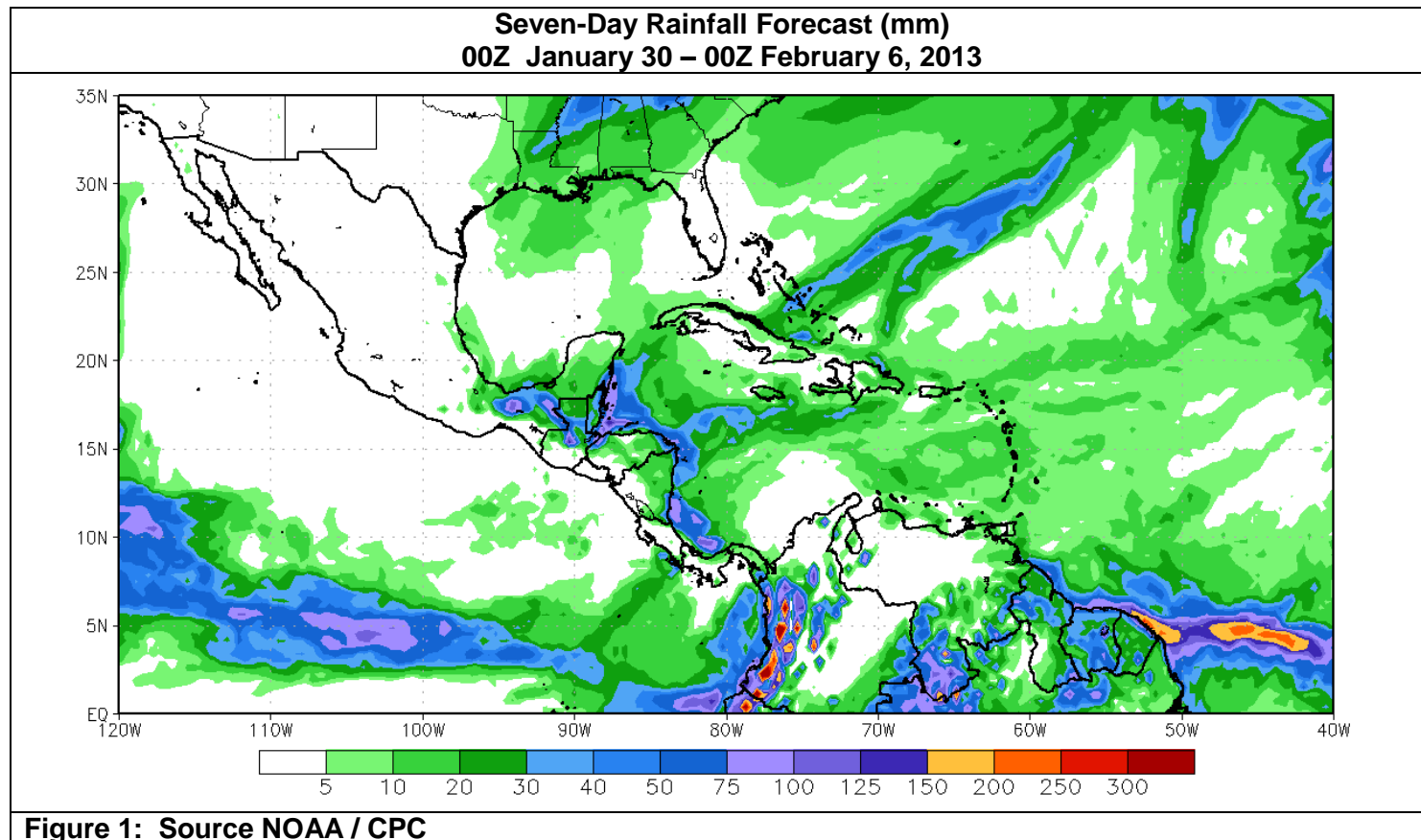
- Heavy coastal rain showers continued for a third consecutive week along the Gulf of Honduras.



Torrential rains impacted coastal areas in northern Honduras for a third consecutive week.

During the past seven days, heavy coastal rain showers (>50mm) were observed along the Gulf of Honduras for a third consecutive week. This also marked the third straight week where rainfall accumulations exceeded 70mm in La Ceiba and Roatán, Honduras. The abundant rains have already resulted in flooding and damages to infrastructure along the northern coastline of Honduras and farther north across the Islas de la Bahía. Elsewhere, moderate to heavy rain (>30mm) was observed across Belize and northern Guatemala, which helped to reduce thirty-day and seasonal rainfall deficits. In contrast, light rains (<15mm) were observed farther south in Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama. The light rains helped to maintain thirty-day rainfall deficits in Costa Rica. However, the lack of rain has not impacted vegetative conditions in Costa Rica. Meanwhile, cold temperatures have been recorded across the highest elevations of Guatemala during the past several weeks, but have not affected crops.

During the next week, a frontal system is expected to impact northern Central America resulting in moderate to heavy rains (>30mm) around the Gulf of Honduras. The heaviest rains (>40mm) are likely to fall in Belize and Guatemala, while moderate to heavy rains (10-40mm) are forecast across Honduras. Meanwhile, the passage of the frontal system could result in slightly below-average temperatures across northern Central America, including the higher elevations of Guatemala.



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