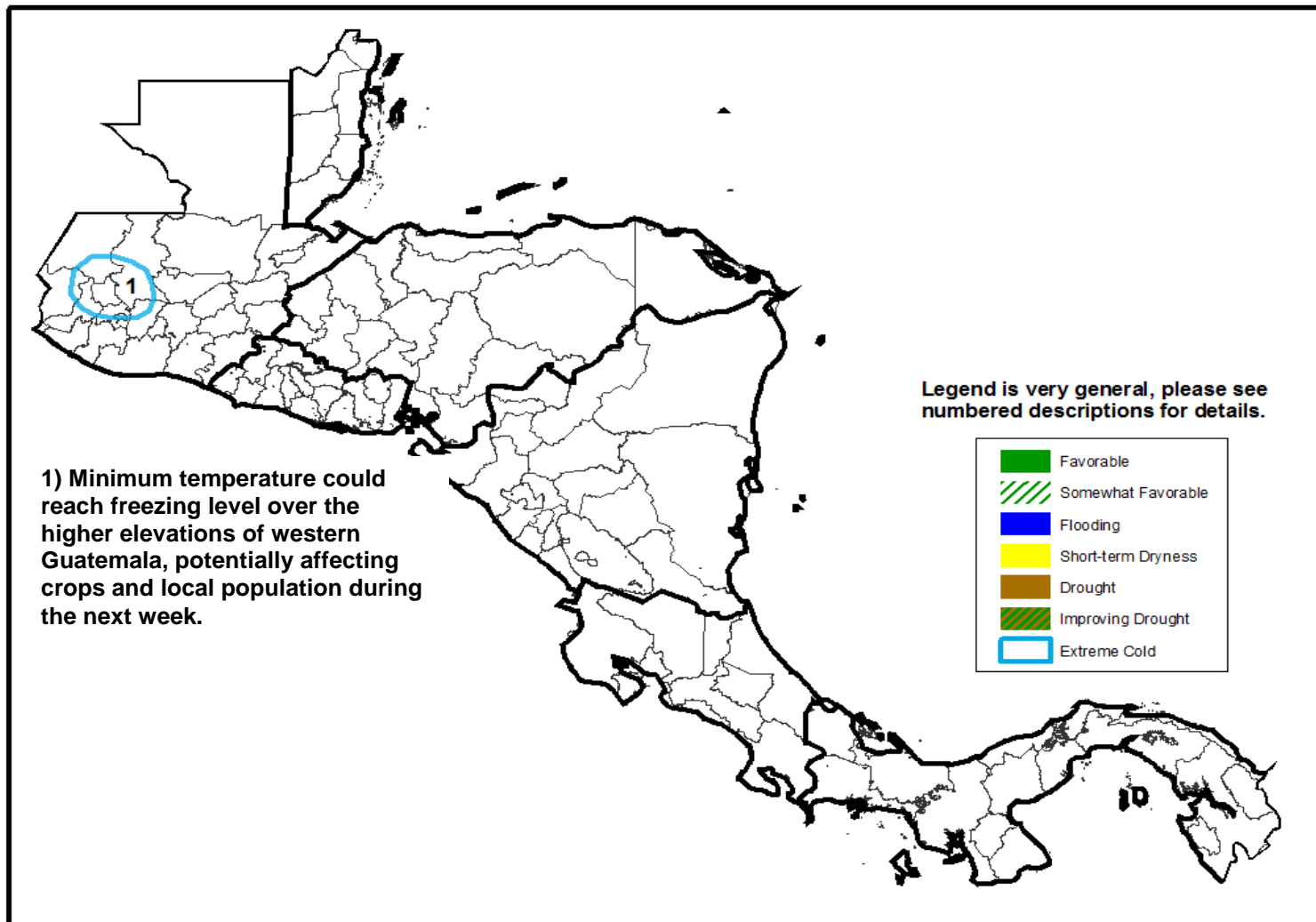


Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET February 7 – February 13, 2013

- Heavy rains caused the overflowing of a river in the Izabal department of Guatemala; while seasonably dry weather prevailed over Central America during the past week.



Seasonably dry weather continues across Central America.

The passage of a frontal system brought heavy rains that resulted in the overflowing of the San Agustín River in Puerto Barrios of the Izabal department of eastern Guatemala during the past week. This has affected nearly two hundred thirty-four people in the area, according to the Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres (CONRED) of Guatemala. Elsewhere, seasonably little to no rainfall (< 10 mm) prevailed across much of Central America. Over the past thirty days, rainfall has been average to above-average throughout northern Central America, with surpluses exceeding 200 mm across the Petén department of northern Guatemala and the Gulf of Honduras region. Conversely, average to below-average rainfall spread over southern Central America, with deficits between 50 - 200 mm over the eastern half of Costa Rica. The central region and Atlantic coastlines of Costa Rica receive typically between 100 and 200 mm of rainfall during February. The return of increased rainfall throughout the remainders of the month should help to reduce moisture deficits over Costa Rica.

During the next week, dry weather is expected to continue across much of Central America. However, low-level easterly winds could bring heavy showers along the Atlantic coasts of Nicaragua. Minimum temperature is forecast to range between freezing level and 5 degrees Celsius across the elevated terrains of western Guatemala, potentially impacting crops and local residents during the next week.

