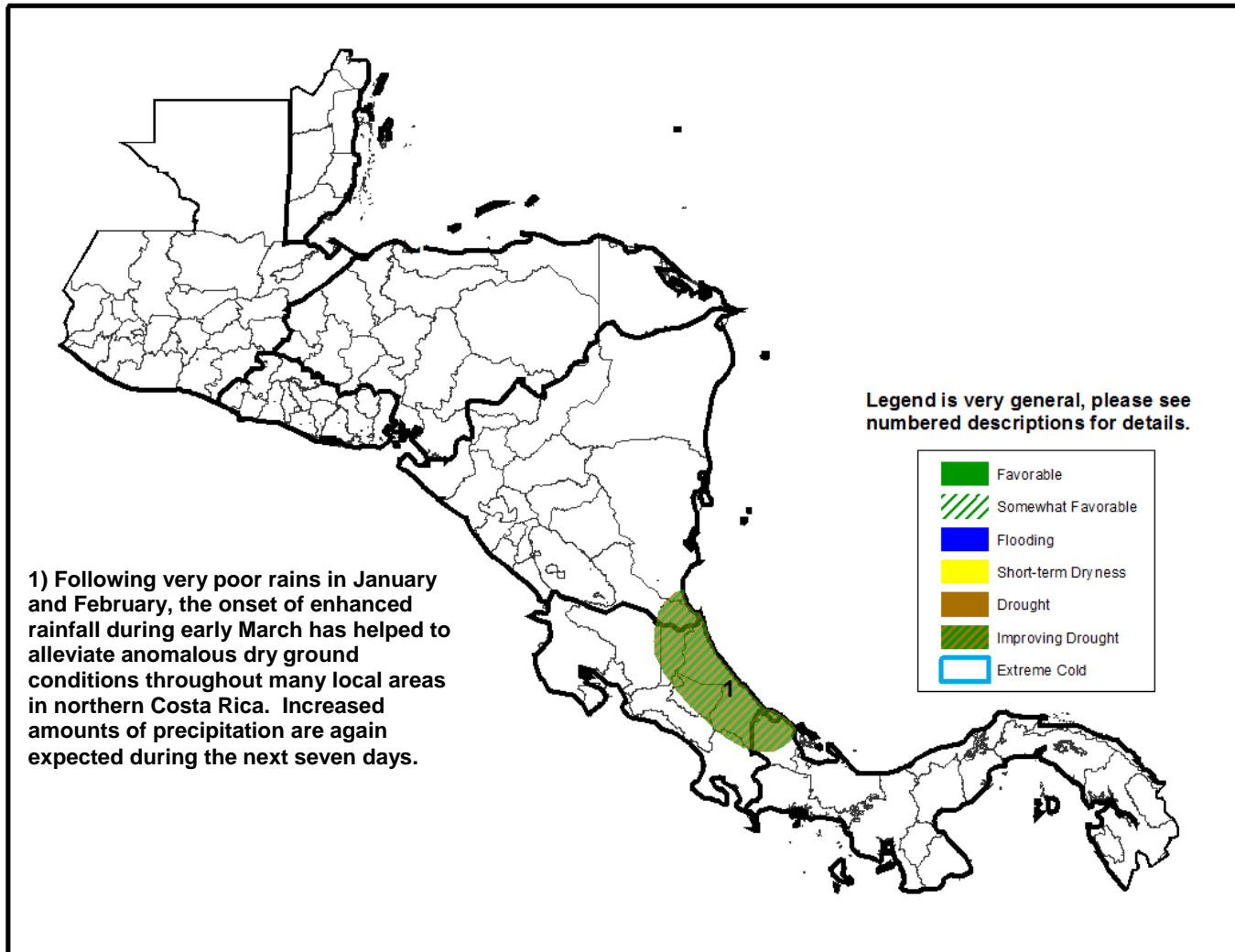




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET March 7 – March 13, 2013

- Increased rains continue throughout the southern Caribbean, providing relief to dryness across parts of Costa Rica.



## Enhanced rains in southern Caribbean expected to mitigate dryness in Costa Rica.

During the past seven days, an increase in precipitation was observed throughout much of Central America. The highest weekly rainfall amounts were received in the southern Caribbean, with totals in excess of 75mm along the Pacific and Atlantic sides of Costa Rica and Panama. Further north, seasonably high totals were also received in the Gulf of Honduras, and along the northern Honduras coastline. Further inland, little to no rainfall was received during the last week. During the month of February, much of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador have observed a seasonable distribution of precipitation, while well below-average moisture conditions have persisted across much of Costa Rica. However, the onset of enhanced rainfall during early March has helped to eliminate a large portion of moisture deficits observed throughout the region, as many local areas are currently experiencing a return to near normal conditions.

During the next week, a continuation of enhanced rainfall is expected across much of the southern Caribbean, with weekly rainfall amounts in excess of 75mm reaching onshore across the Rio San Juan and Atlántico Sur departments of southern Nicaragua, as well as, across the Limon department of northern Costa Rica. However, suppressed rainfall is expected throughout many parts of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua, with only light showers forecast (10-20mm) along northern Honduras.

