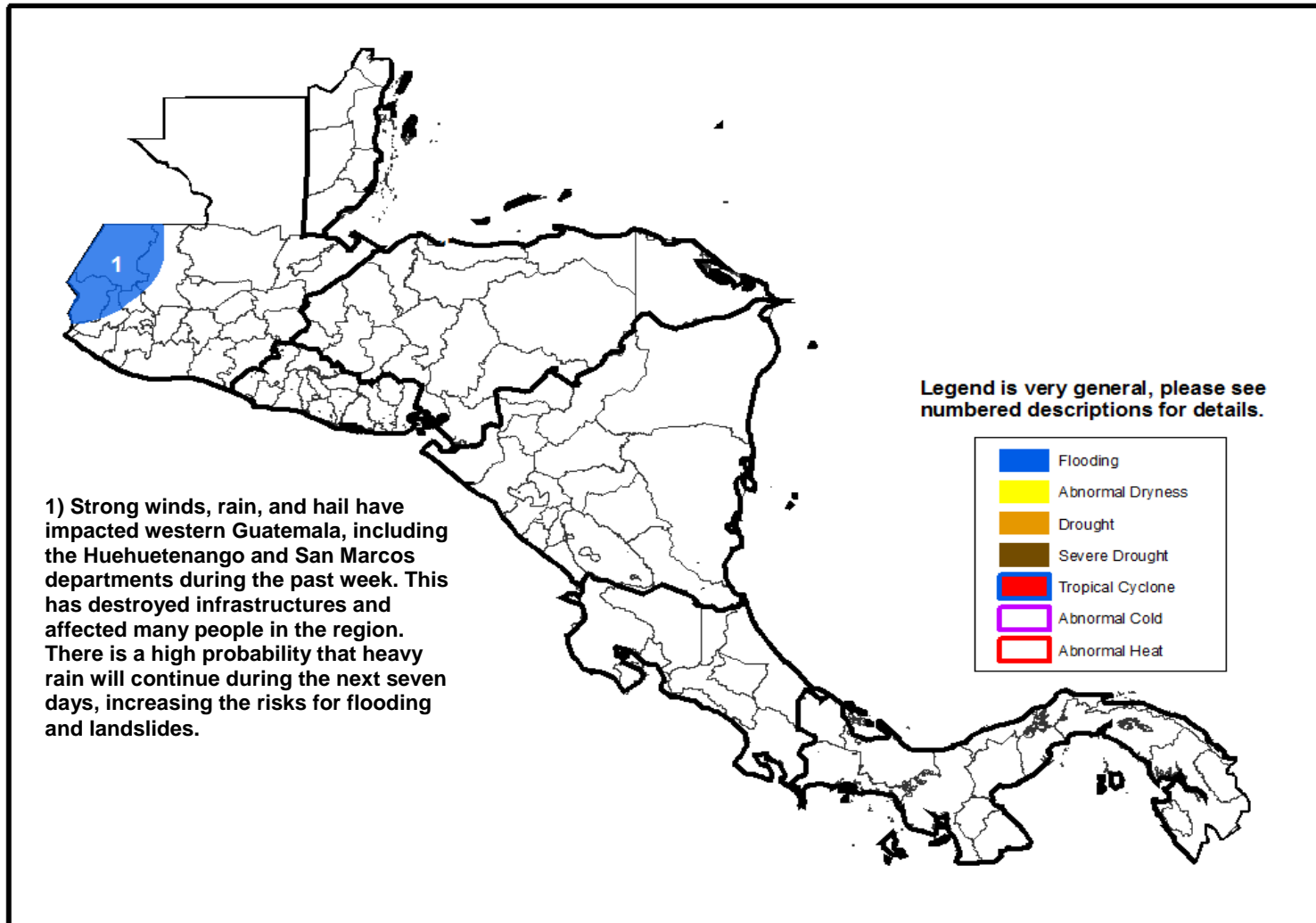




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET April 11 – April 17, 2013

- Heavy rain is expected to continue in western Guatemala during the next outlook period, elevating risks for local flooding.



## Heavy rain to persist in western Guatemala.

An increase in rainfall was observed over northern Central America during the past seven days due to enhanced advection of moisture from both the Pacific and Atlantic oceans. Heavy rain accompanied by hails was received over the Huehuetenango and San Marcos departments of western Guatemala, destroying homes and roads and affected many people in the region. Heavy rain also fell along the northern coasts of Honduras, further increasing moisture surpluses. Over the southern Caribbean, above-average and widespread rain was recorded over Costa Rica and western Panama during the past week, helping to reduce accumulated moisture deficits. Over the past thirty days, rainfall surpluses were observed over central Guatemala and the Gulf of Honduras due to successive passage of frontal boundaries. Conversely, rainfall deficits were registered over the western portions of northern Guatemala and much of Costa Rica and Panama due to poor rainfall distribution during the past several months. Meanwhile, the return of warmer weather has favored forest fire incidence over many local areas of Central America.

During the next outlook period, model rainfall forecasts suggest a continuation of enhanced rain across western Guatemala. Moderate to locally heavy rain is forecast over the Huehuetenango and possibly Alta Verapaz departments. Light to moderate rain is possible over the Petén department of northern Guatemala, western Honduras, and eastern Nicaragua. A decrease in rainfall is, however, forecast over the southern Caribbean as the heaviest rain is expected to remain off-shore of the Pacific south region of Costa Rica and Panama.

