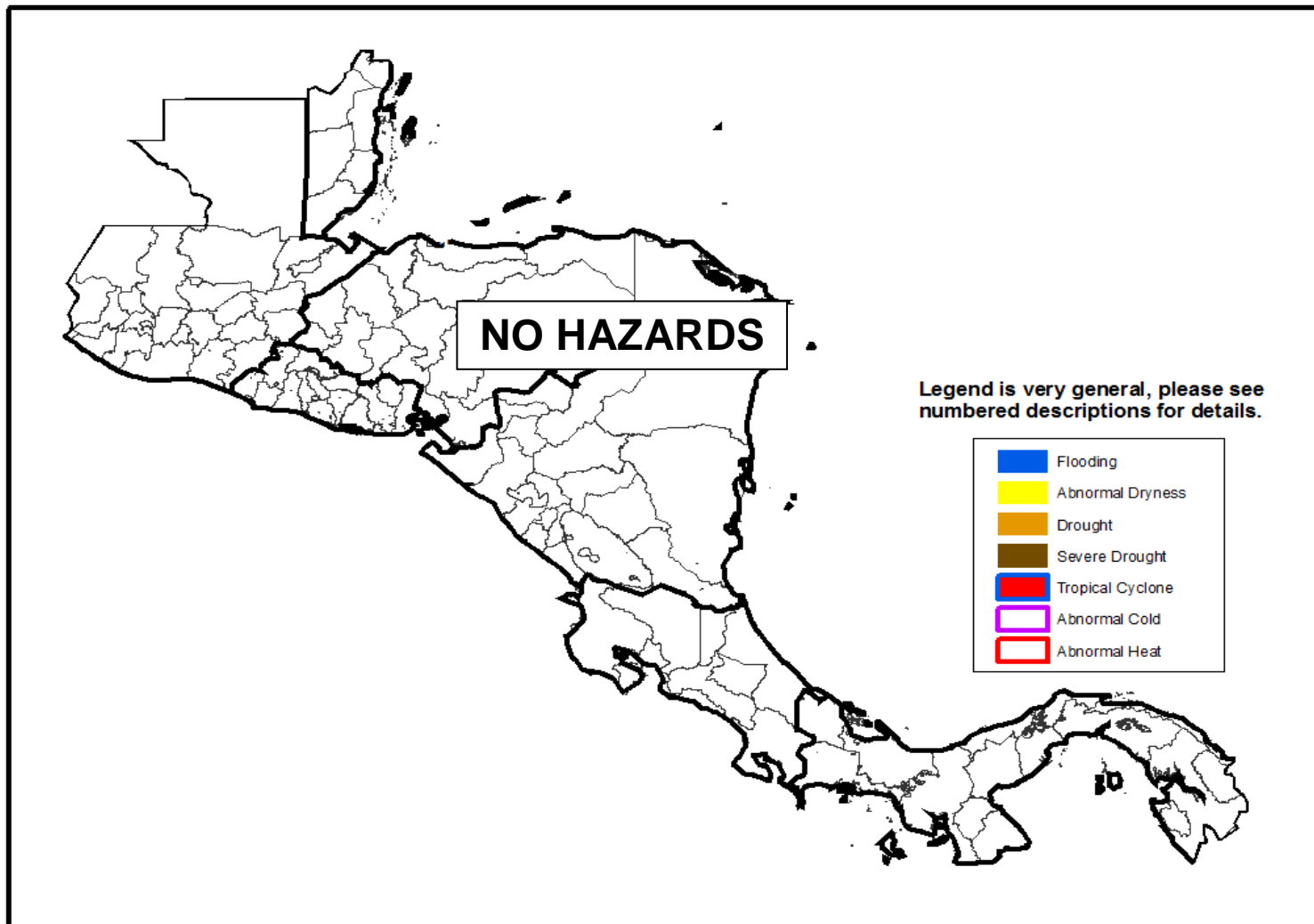




## Climate Prediction Center's Central America Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET May 2 – May 8, 2013

- Heavy rain forecast across northern Central America during the next outlook period.



## Heavy showers expected throughout northern Central America.

In general, Central America received an average to below-average rainfall during the past seven days. With the exception of the southwestern parts and Pacific coasts of Guatemala and eastern El Salvador, where moderate to heavy rain was observed, little to no rainfall was recorded throughout much of Central America. Since late March, rainfall has been sporadic across much of the interior of the region, resulting in increasing (> 50 mm) rainfall deficits over many areas, particularly the south-central and eastern portions of Guatemala, parts of western El Salvador, and western Honduras. Meanwhile, the lack of rain over the past several weeks has continued to favor the spread and incidence of forest fires over many local areas. An adequate rainfall distribution is needed over the upcoming few weeks to eliminate existing rainfall deficits and provide favorable moisture conditions for cropping activities during the *Primera*, May – August, season.

During the next outlook period, model rainfall forecasts indicate widespread, heavy rain across northern Central America, with abundant (> 75 mm) rain in southern Guatemala, the western half of Honduras, and northwestern Nicaragua. Light rain is expected over eastern Honduras, El Salvador, and much of Nicaragua. In the southern Caribbean, the central and Pacific regions of Costa Rica could receive heavy showers, while Panama is forecast to experience light to moderate rainfall. If the forecast increase in rainfall materializes, it could benefit land preparation and sowing over many local areas of Central America.

