

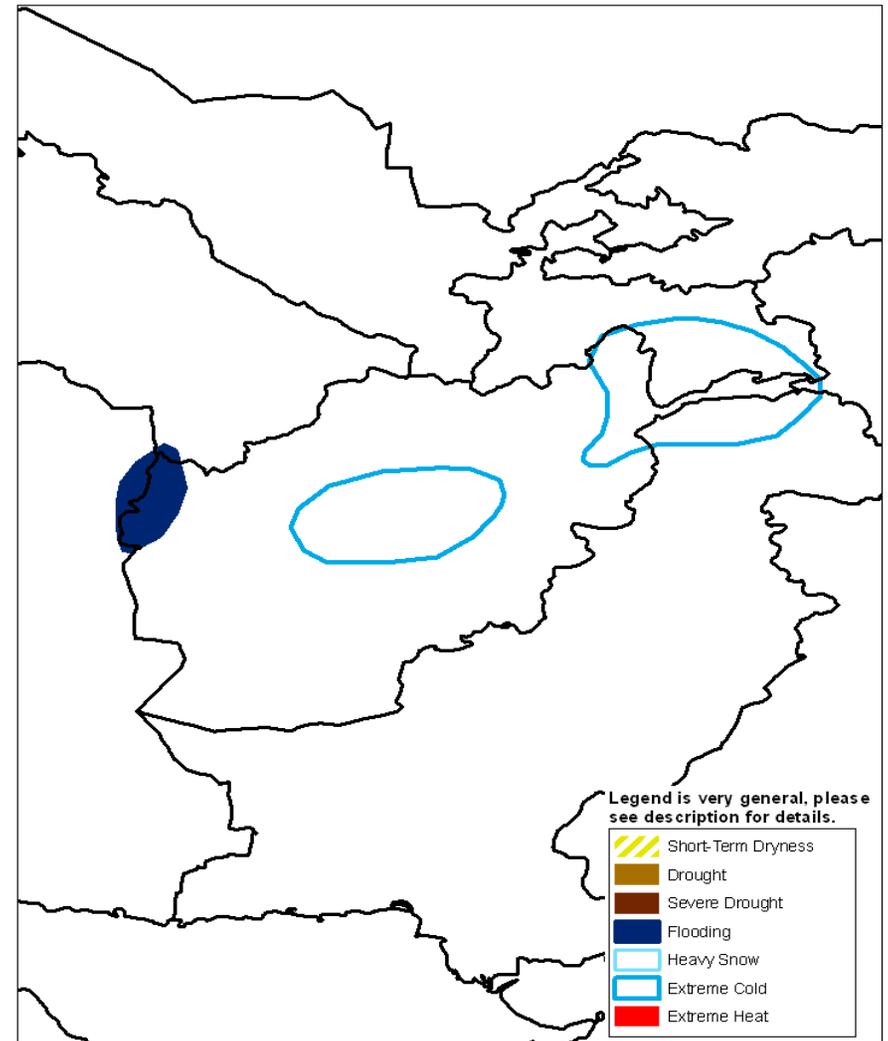
The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Afghanistan February 9 - 15, 2011

Temperatures:

During later January, temperatures averaged much below normal in the central highlands and northeast mountains. Across the lower elevations, temperatures averaged above normal. During the next week, temperatures are expected to remain much below normal in the central highlands and northeast mountains. Minimum temperatures will likely fall below -20C in these areas.

Precipitation

During mid-January and the beginning of February, moderate to heavy precipitation eliminated precipitation deficits across Afghanistan. Snow water volume charts from USGS indicate a large increase in moisture availability across the northeast mountains and central highlands. Due to the heavy snow since early January, snow water values are at or above average for most of the country. Since the beginning of February, heavy rain triggered flash flooding in Herat province. Dry weather can be expected on February 9 and 10, but rain and high-elevation snow is forecast to return on February 11. Although precipitation amounts are not forecast to be as heavy as the previous week, rainfall could exacerbate any ongoing flooding.



Note: The Hazards assessment map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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