

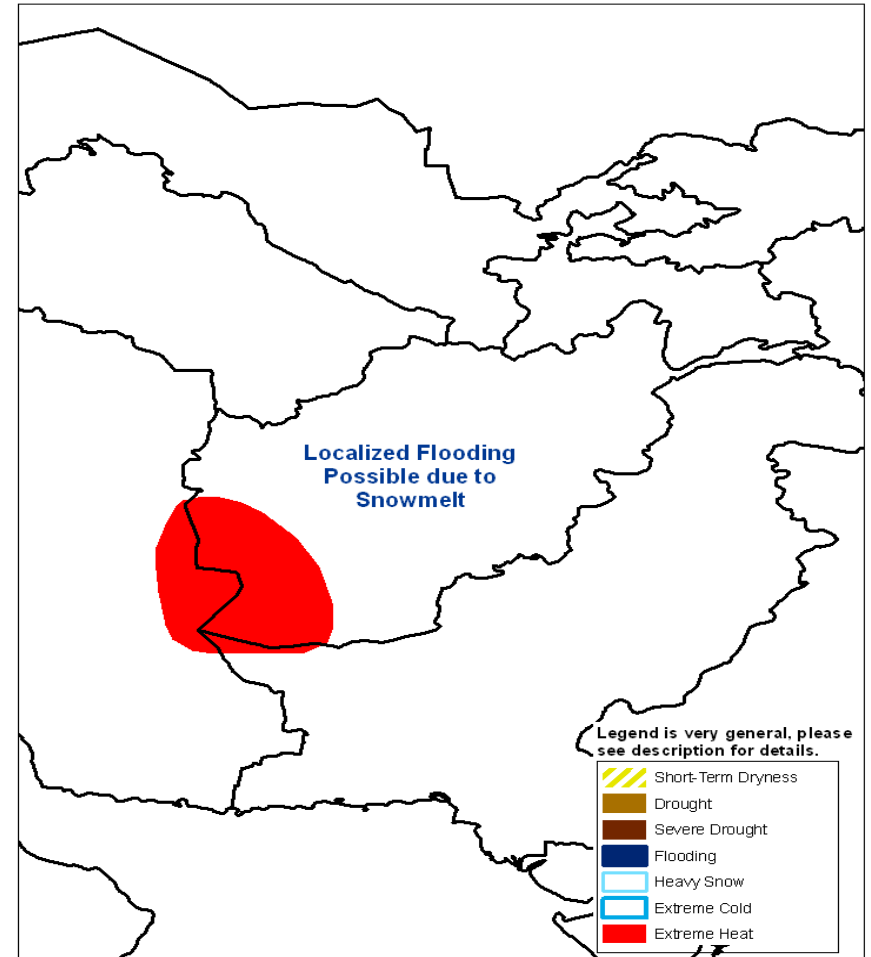
The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Outlook for Afghanistan April 27 – May 3, 2011

Temperatures:

During early to mid April, temperatures remained below normal across the central highlands and northeast mountains, while temperatures averaged above normal across the lowlands. The seasonal warming trend has triggered snow melt across the central highlands, but no flooding has been reported. During the next week, maximum temperatures are forecast to range from 35 to 40 (C) in southwest Afghanistan and 15 to 20 (C) in the central highlands. An extreme heat hazard was posted for southwest Afghanistan.

Precipitation

Since mid-January, periods of moderate to heavy precipitation have created precipitation surpluses for the winter season. From October 1, 2010 – April 20, 2011, precipitation is running at least 150 percent of normal across much of Afghanistan, according to the USGS. Rapid snow melt has occurred during the past month with snow coverage currently limited to the highest elevations of central and northeast Afghanistan. During the next week, scattered rain showers along with any additional snow melt may trigger localized 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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