

AFGHANISTAN Weekly Climate Forecast

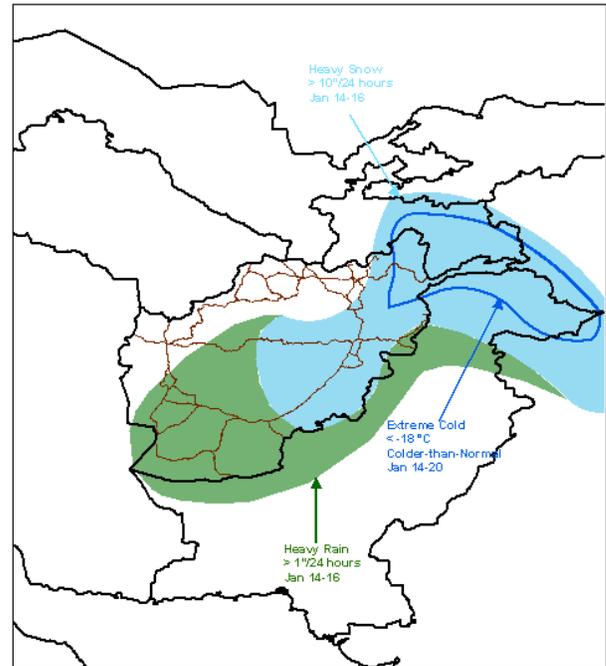
#02, January 14 - 20, 2009

During early December, temperatures were above-average, except in the highest elevations of northeast Afghanistan. Since mid-December, much colder temperatures have prevailed as temperatures were 4 to 8 °C below-average in the central highlands and northeast mountains. Below-average temperatures should persist in the northeast mountains where extreme cold (minimum temperatures below -18 °C) can be expected.

From October – December, precipitation has averaged above normal across the lowlands, while precipitation has averaged below normal across the central highlands (Figure 2).

During the next week, a slow-moving low pressure system will bring widespread precipitation to much of Afghanistan. Snow depths may increase by more than 30 cm in the central highlands and northeast mountains (Figure 3). In southern Afghanistan, locally heavy rainfall may occur.

Figure 1. Weather hazards in Afghanistan

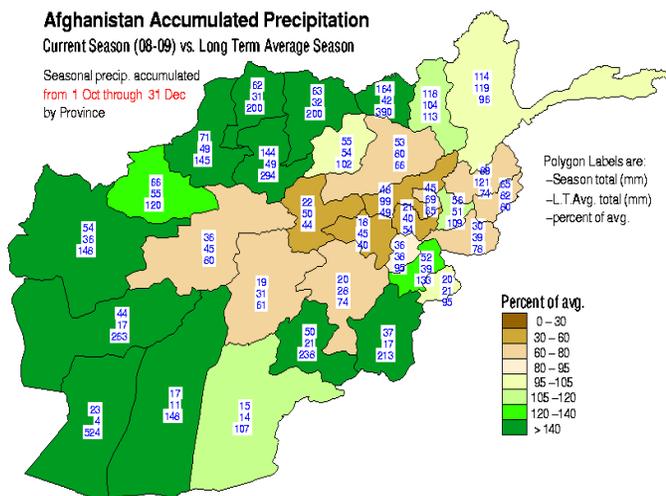


VALID: January 14 - 20, 2009
SOURCE: NOAA

Figure 2.

Afghanistan Accumulated Precipitation
Current Season (08-09) vs. Long Term Average Season

Seasonal precip. accumulated
from 1 Oct through 31 Dec
by Province

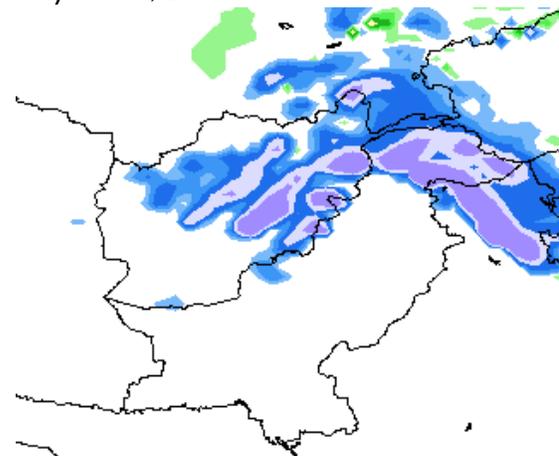


Source: USGS

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Figure 3. Snow Depth Change (cm) forecast for January 11 - 17, 2009



Source: FEWS NET/NOAA

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