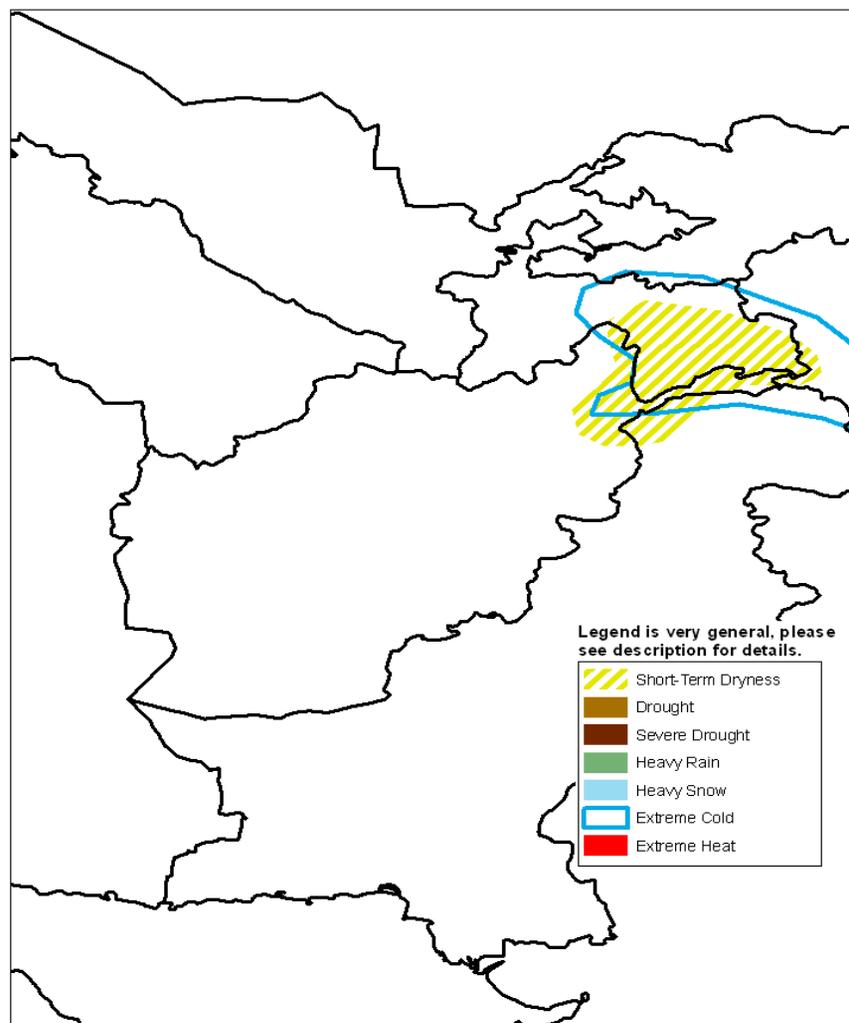


During much of the winter, temperatures have averaged below normal across the central highlands and northeast mountains. In the lowlands, temperatures have generally averaged at or above normal with the largest positive temperature anomalies occurring during January. During the next week, temperatures should remain slightly below normal in the central highlands and northeast mountains. Minimum temperatures will likely fall below -20C in the northeast mountains.

Although precipitation is usually relatively light during October and November, precipitation amounts were higher than the long-term average. Typically, rain and snow amounts increase during November, and by December precipitation occurs weekly. Above normal snowfall amounts occurred from November into the beginning of December. However, during later December and much of January, mostly dry weather dominated the region, resulting in little or no increase in snow depths. Short-term dryness developed in the northeastern part of the country. During the past week, widespread rain and snow has occurred in Afghanistan. The northeast mountains, suffering from the short-term dryness, has received 50 – 100 mm (liquid equivalent) of precipitation. Although this wetness has reduced precipitation deficits, additional precipitation is needed to eliminate the precipitation deficits.

During the next week, a low pressure system is expected to result in light to moderate rain and mountain snow. Precipitation amounts will generally range from 10 to 25 mm, liquid equivalent.



**Note: This product 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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