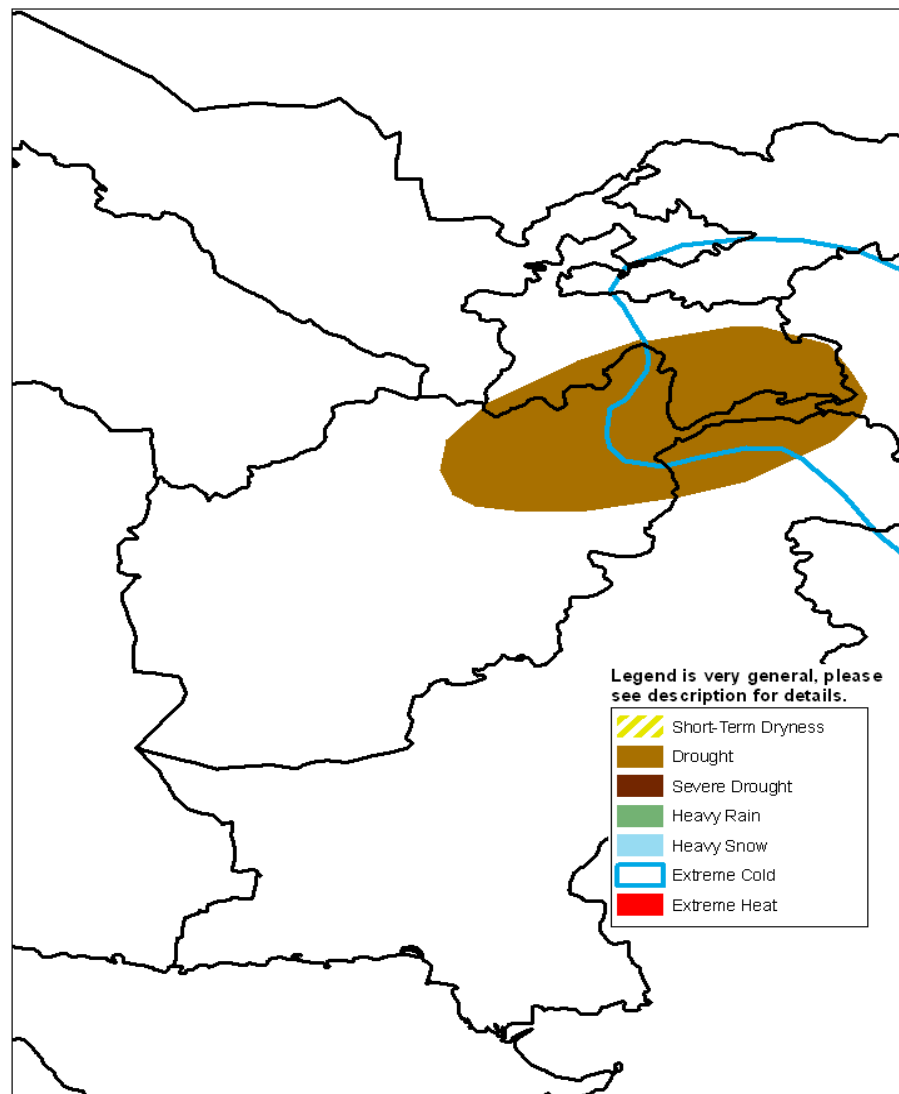


The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Afghanistan April 7 - 13, 2010

During March, temperatures averaged above normal across much of Afghanistan with the largest positive anomalies occurring from March 10 - 20. The unseasonably warm temperatures have likely resulted a rapid, early snow melt which has increased the risk of river flooding. During the next week, temperatures are forecast to remain above average in the lowlands and below average across the northeast mountains. Minimum temperatures are expected to fall below -20C in the northeast mountains.

Although precipitation is usually relatively light during October and November, precipitation amounts this year at this time 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 late December and 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. Despite periods of rain and snow during March, precipitation deficits remain substantial across the northeast parts of the country. From April 10 - 12, snow (accumulations of 15 to 30 cm, locally heavier amounts) can be expected at the highest elevations of the northeast mountains.



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.

FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards assessment process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned. Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-763-8000 x7566. Questions about the USAID FEWSNET activity may be directed to Gary Eilerts, USAID Program Manager for FEWSNET, 1-202-219-0500 or geilerts@usaid.gov.