

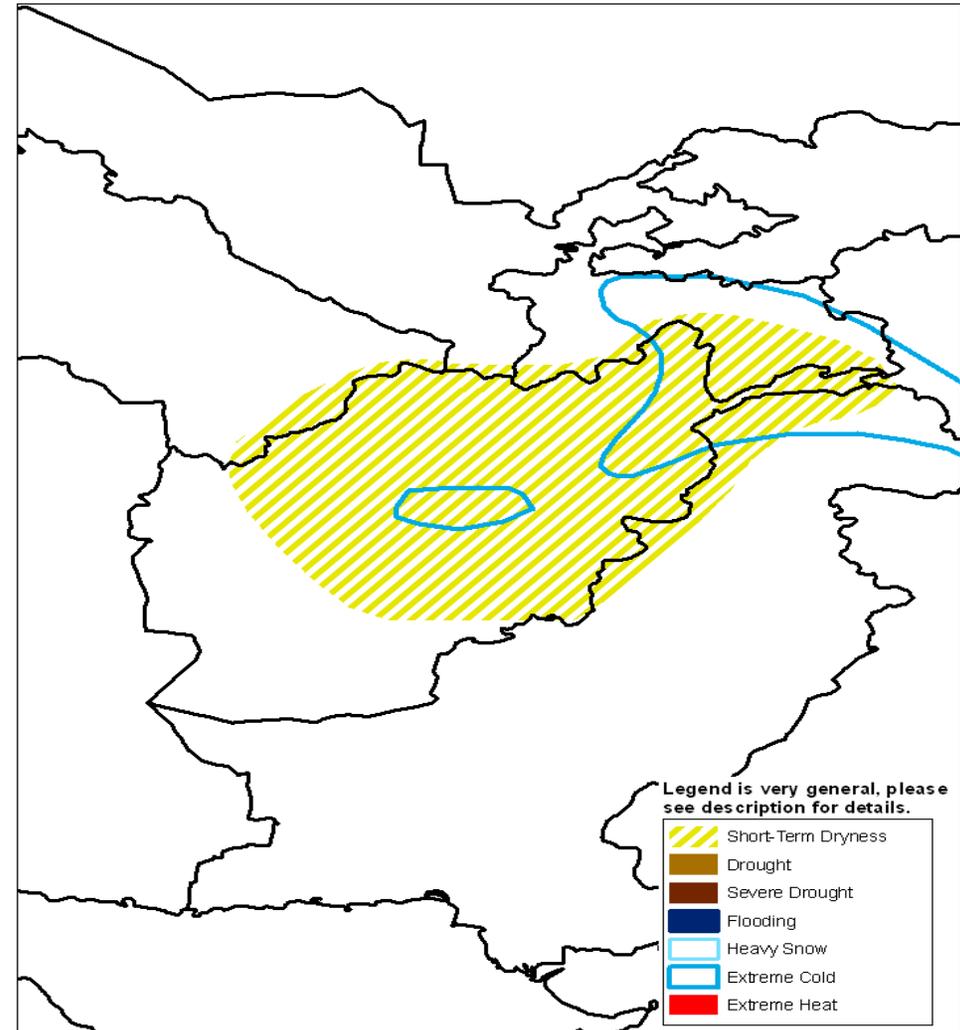
The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Afghanistan January 5 - 11, 2011

Temperatures:

During December, temperatures remained much below normal across the central highlands and northeast mountains. Temperatures generally average below normal across the lowlands of southern Afghanistan. During the next week, temperatures are expected to remain below normal across much of the country with the largest negative temperature anomalies forecast in the northeast mountains. Minimum temperatures are forecast to range from -20 to -10 C in the central highlands and -35 to -20C in the northeast mountains. Freezing temperatures can be expected in the lowlands of southern Afghanistan. An extreme cold hazard is posted for the northeast mountains and parts of the central highlands due to the large negative temperature anomalies forecast.

Precipitation

From October 1 – December 31, precipitation deficits in the northeast mountains range from 50 to 100 mm. Precipitation deficits have increased to more than 25 mm in the central highlands. Only light snow (10 mm or less, liquid equivalent) is forecast in the northeast mountains during the next week. At this time, heavy snow is not expected in the near future with precipitation deficits likely increasing. Due to the lack of precipitation so far this season and the expected dryness during the upcoming week, a short-term dryness polygon is needed for central and northern Afghanistan.



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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