

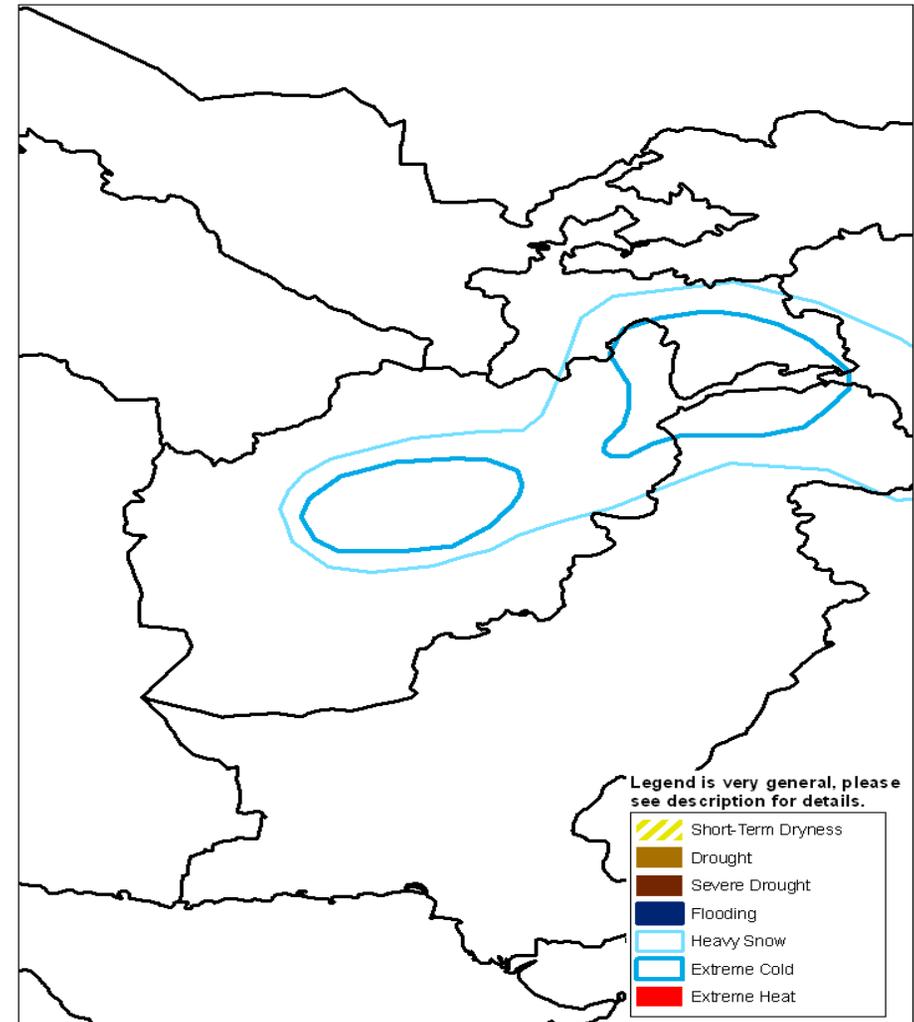
The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Afghanistan February 23 - 29, 2011

Temperatures:

During early February, temperatures generally averaged slightly below normal in the central highlands and northeast mountains. Across the lowlands of Afghanistan, temperatures have averaged above normal since the beginning of February. During the next week, temperatures are expected to average much below normal in the central highlands and northeast mountains where minimum temperatures will likely fall below -20C.

Precipitation

Since mid-January, periods of moderate to heavy precipitation have eliminated precipitation deficits and created precipitation surpluses for the winter season. Snow water volume charts from USGS indicate a large increase in water availability across the central highlands and northeast mountains. On February 27 and 28, another storm is expected to bring heavy snow to parts of northern and central Afghanistan. Due to cold temperatures, snow levels are forecast to be relatively low for the end of February.



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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