

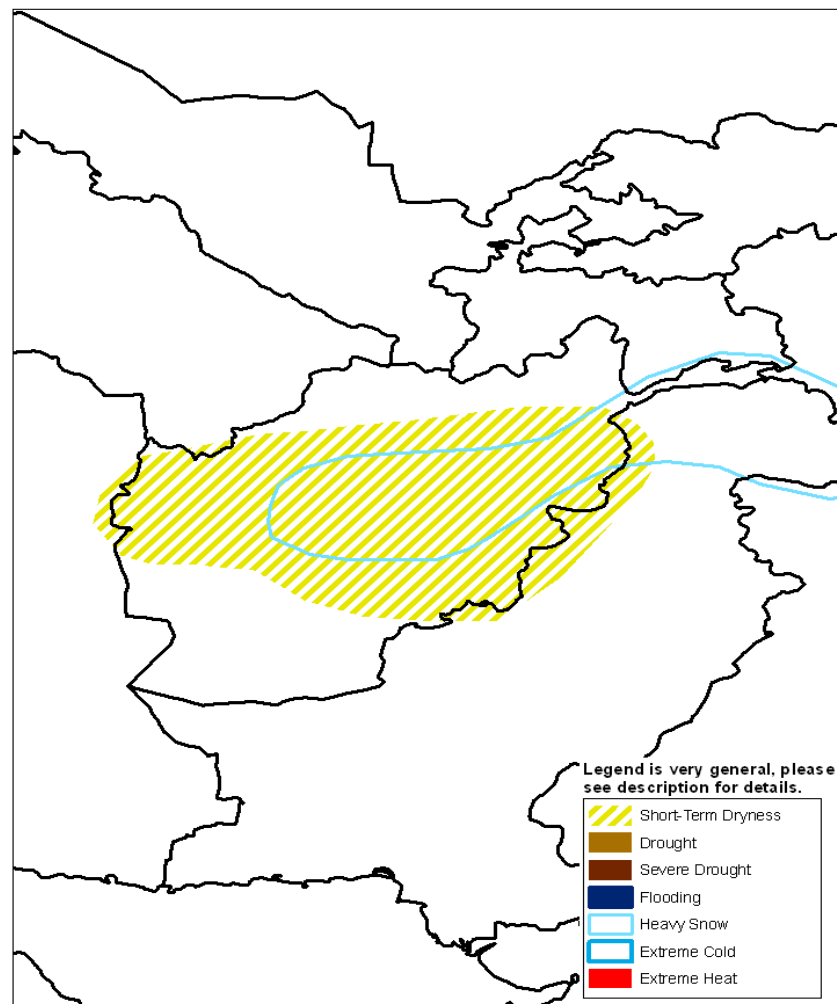
## The USAID FEWS NET Weather Hazards Impacts Assessment for Afghanistan February 2 - 8, 2011

### Temperatures:

During early-to-mid January, temperatures generally averaged close to average in the lowlands but remained much below average in the central highlands and northeast mountains. During the next week, temperatures are expected to moderate across Afghanistan with temperatures only averaging slightly below normal in the northeast mountains and central highlands. Although no extreme hazard is posted, minimum temperatures are forecast to fall below -20C in the northeast mountains and central highlands.

### Precipitation

During mid-January, moderate to heavy precipitation decreased precipitation deficits across far northern Afghanistan including the northeast mountains. Snow water volume charts from USGS indicate a large increase in moisture availability across the northeast mountains. Due to the heavy snow since early January, snow water values are near average in the northeast mountains. However, precipitation deficits (25 to 50 mm) continue in the central highlands where a short-term polygon is needed. During the next week, a major winter storm is expected to bring heavy snow to central and northeast Afghanistan. Snowfall amounts are forecast to exceed 30cm in the central highland and northeast mountains. Therefore, a heavy snowfall hazard is posted for these regions. The heavy snow may decrease or perhaps eliminate the ongoing short-term dryness.



**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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