Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
25 April – 1 May 2024

Temperature:

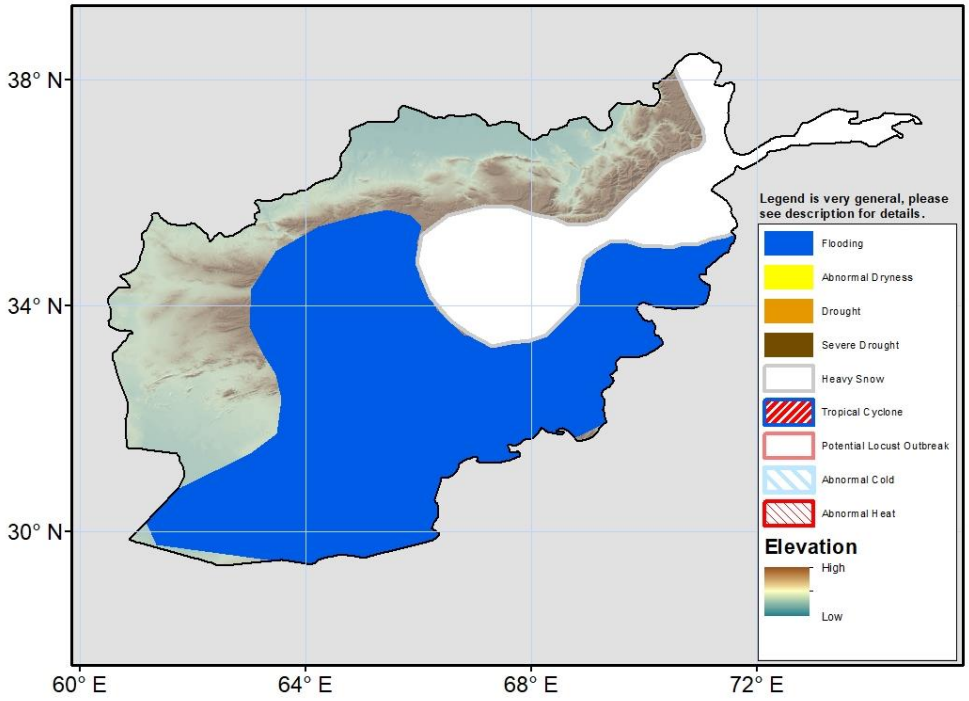
Mean maximum temperatures were much-below average across most of Afghanistan with negative anomalies of 6-12°C. Maximum temperatures remained below 5°C in many of the higher elevation areas. 7-day mean minimum temperatures were below average by 2°C to as much as 12°C in central Afghanistan. Near-average temperatures occurred elsewhere. Mean minimum temperatures were -15°C to 5°C in the Northeast's mountains and -10°C to 0°C in the Central Highlands.

During the outlook period, temperatures are expected to be colder than average. Negative 7-day mean maximum temperature anomalies of 4-8°C are forecasted throughout the country. Overnight temperatures will be similarly colder than average with 2-6°C anomalies across the country. As such, temperatures in the central highlands will still be below 0°C.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, southern, eastern, and central portions of Afghanistan received moderate to heavy rain and snow (25 mm to around 50 mm liquid equivalent). Northeastern parts of the country received light to moderate precipitation. Heavy rainfall triggered flash floods in large parts of Afghanistan since 12Apr2024 resulting 70 fatalities, 56 people injured, 2600 houses damaged, 95000 acres of lost agriculture, and 400 lost livestock across 20 provinces. With recent snowfall, snow water volume has improved in the mountains of Afghanistan Based on USGS snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, with areas of positive and negative anomalies present. Rainfall estimates for the last 30-day period depict wetter than average conditions in the South and East and slightly dryer than average conditions in the West Region. Long-term dryness remains present in parts of Badakhshan province.

For the outlook period, another strong storm system will bring heavy and above-average precipitation across the country. Many parts of the country are likely to receive more than 25mm liquid equivalent precipitation, while models forecast 75 mm to more than 100 mm in central and eastern Afghanistan. A large flooding hazard is posted where forecasted heavy precipitation coupled with mountain snowmelt is raising stream flows. A heavy snow hazard is posted where mountain snows will accumulate from 25 cm to 100 cm.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium-range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product considers long-range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect 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 outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and several other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

Questions or comments about the hazard's outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverdin@usaid.gov