Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
17 August –23 August, 2023

Temperature:

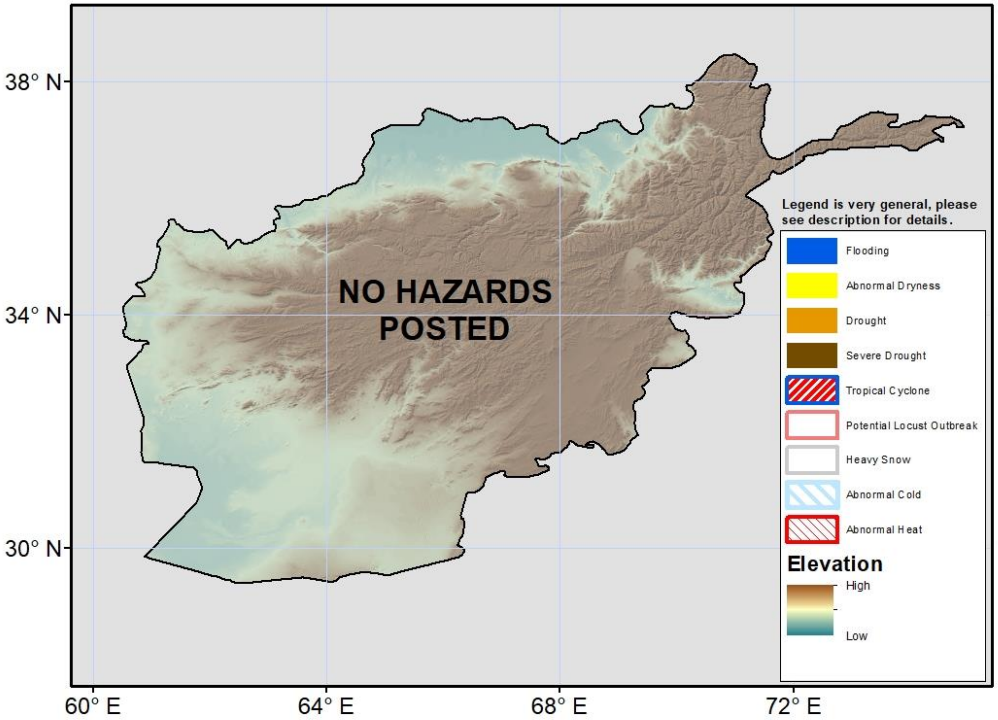
Mean maximum temperatures were slightly above average (2-4°C anomalies) for some eastern and southeastern provinces of Afghanistan, with near-average temperatures elsewhere. Maximum temperature exceeded 40°C in parts of Farah, Nimroz, Hilmand, and Kandahar, and exceeded 35°C for many other lower elevation regions during the period. Weekly minimum temperatures were 2-6°C below average in central and northeastern Afghanistan and 2-4°C above average across the South. Minimum temperatures were 5-10°C in the highest elevations, while low elevations (below ~1500m) remained higher than 20°C or above 25°C in the Southwest.

During the outlook period, mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be above average (1-4°C anomalies) for central, eastern, and northeastern portions of Afghanistan. Near or slightly below-average temperatures are expected elsewhere. Maximum temperature will exceed 40°C in parts of Farah and Nimroz provinces during the period, with many lower elevations (below ~1500m) between 35°C and 40°C. Mean minimum temperatures are forecasted to be 1-4°C above average across much of the country.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, localized light to moderate rains were observed in eastern Afghanistan, near the Pakistan border. Rainfall totals of 5mm to locally around 25 mm or more were observed according to both gauges and satellite estimates. 30-day rainfall analysis shows generally positive anomalies of 10-100mm over southeastern and eastern zones. Vegetation health indices show degraded ground conditions for much of the country with the worst conditions in northern and western provinces. Lush conditions are present in the East due to reason monsoonal rains.

For the outlook period, light rain is possible in a few parts of eastern and northeastern Afghanistan. Total rainfall should be less than 10 mm and the flood threat is diminished this week. The remainder of the country is seasonably dry.



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