

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET March 12- 18, 2020

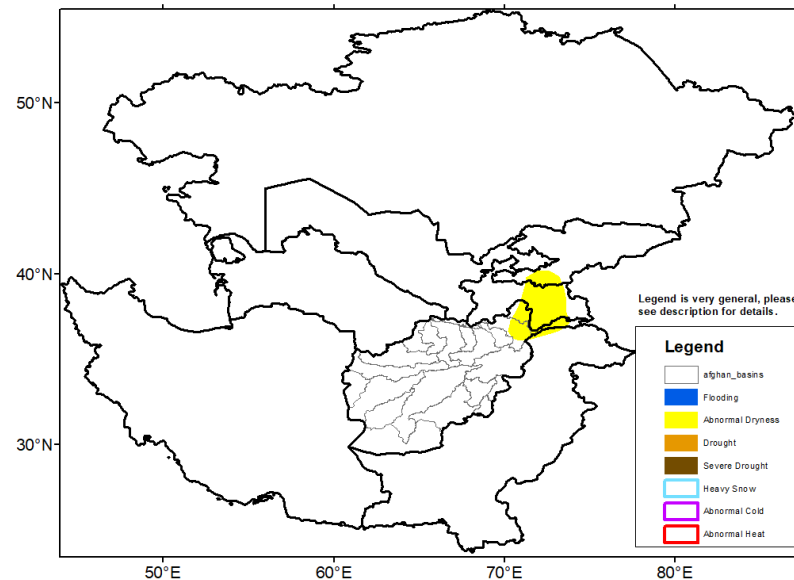
Temperatures:

Above normal temperatures prevailed during the first week of March with 7-day temperatures averaging 3 to 9 degrees C above normal across much of the region. Maximum temperatures reached 20 degrees C as far north as southern Kazakhstan, while maximum temperatures were as high as 27 degrees C in southern Turkmenistan and the lower elevations of northwest Afghanistan. The GFS model indicates that below normal temperatures will shift south into Kazakhstan during mid-March, while above normal are likely to persist across the remainder of Central Asia.

Precipitation

Widespread rain and high-elevation snow occurred across much of Afghanistan and Tajikistan with local amounts exceeding 50 mm. Due to this recent precipitation, the spatial extent of the abnormal dryness hazard was reduced. Snow water equivalent anomalies continue to indicate large negative anomalies across parts of northeast Afghanistan and eastern Tajikistan.

A low pressure system is forecast to slowly track away from Afghanistan by the beginning of the period. Therefore, a heavy precipitation or flooding hazard is not posted for this outlook period.



Note: The Hazards outlook 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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