

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET April 9 - 15, 2020

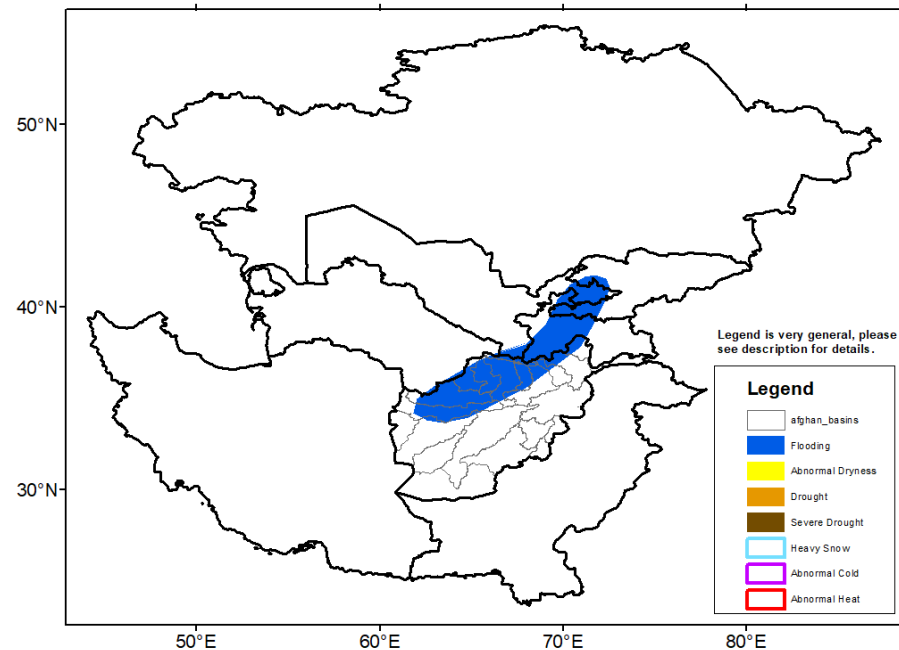
Temperatures:

Above normal temperatures were observed across most of the region from March 29 to April 4 with the largest positive anomalies up to +10 degrees C in northwest Kazakhstan. Maximum temperatures warmed into the lower 20s (degrees C) as far north as central Kazakhstan, while maximum temperatures in the upper 20s (degrees C) were observed in the lower elevations of northwest Kazakhstan. The anomalous warmth likely resulted in rapid snow melt during later March. Much colder temperatures are likely at the start of the outlook period when a freeze and/or frost may affect the lower elevations of northern and western Afghanistan. Subfreezing temperatures are forecast across the northern half of Kazakhstan and higher elevations of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

Precipitation

Multiple low pressure system during March resulted in frequent rain and high-elevation snow across Afghanistan and Tajikistan. According to the RFE satellite estimates, widespread 30-day precipitation amounts ranged from 50 to 100 mm, liquid equivalent, across Tajikistan and much of Afghanistan. The cumulative effect of this precipitation and rapid snow melt led to flash flooding in Herat province at the end of March.

Occasional rain and high-elevation snow are forecast to continue, but the heaviest precipitation is expected to shift north into northern Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan during early to mid-April. This heavier precipitation along with snow melt supports a flooding hazard.



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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